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Two Years Governance Unrivalled Excellence

In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Tamil Nadu and Mitsubishi Electric India Company on 09.05.2023 in Chennai, for providing incentives to the company for setting up a new manufacturing facility for room air-conditioners and compressors, at a cost of Rs.1,891 crore, with employment to more than 2,000 persons.

May 01: May Day

‘Will work relentlessly to protect the interests of workers’

May Day message of the
Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K.Stalin - 30.04.2023.

On this great day which proclaims the excellence of toiling labourers to the world, I express my heartfelt greetings to workers and their families as workers are the backbone of the country’s progress and growth.

Whenever the D.M.K. was in power, it has implemented various welfare schemes for workers and brought relief and development in their lives. This fact is known to the workers’ community. Whenever the party was in the opposition, it defended the rights of workers. In Government, we have designed and implemented various schemes that ensure their rights.

Government holiday with pay on May Day, 20 per cent bonus, incentive scheme, freeland for landless agricultural workers, Rs. 6,000 to the poor, pregnant women labourers in agriculture and other professions, one kg rice for one rupee, Kalaignar Kaapittu Thittam, Kalaignar Veedu Vazhangum Thittam for hut-less villages and towns, and welfare boards for unorganized workers are all excellent measures implemented by the D.M.K. Government.

I assure workers on this occasion that the D.M.K. and its Government will continue to work relentlessly to protect the interests of workers without any slackness, and extend my hearty May Day greetings to them.

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Navilthorum Noolnayam Poalum Payilthorum
Panbudai yaalar Thodarbu -Kural 783

Just as a good book gives greater enjoyment as it continues to be read, the friendship of cultured men gives greater happiness as the association grows.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** released the souvenir 'Eedilla Aatchi Eeraande Satchi', brought out on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, to highlight the achievements of the Government of Tamil Nadu even as it completes 2 years of rule, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, on 06.05.2023.

To keep abreast of Government news tndiprnews DIPR TN tndipr TN DIPR www.dipr.tn.gov.in

Hon'ble Chief Minister releases publication on array of achievements in 2 years of rule

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** released a publication on the achievements of the present Government in the past 2 years and other books and also inaugurated a photo exhibition on the achievements of the 2 years rule in the State - 06.05.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin released a special publication brought out by the Information and Public Relations Department, on the achievements of two years of D.M.K. rule in the State and other publications title 'Quotable quotes of the Hon'ble Chief Minister', 'Statements made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister under Rule 110 in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly', 'Speeches made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly', 'Kaala Pezhai' and a video CD on 2 years achievements of the Government. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated a photo exhibition displaying photos on the 2 years achievements of the Government at the Chennai Kalaivanar arangam, on 06.05.2023.

When the Hon'ble Chief Minister took charge of the State two years ago, it was reeling under the Corona pandemic. The Government took prompt prevention measures, controlled the pandemic, extended relief materials to the affected people and protected their livelihood. When the State suffered heavy damages due to the North East Monsoon, the Hon'ble Chief Minister made spot visits and took immediate measures to provide relief to the affected people. The Government also undertook rain drainage works to prevent future damages due to monsoon rains.

Scheme for free bus pass to women in transport corporation buses, Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme, 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme, 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme, 'Chief Minister in your Constituency' scheme, 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' Scheme, 'Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kakkum 48', 'Illam Thedi Kalvi', 'Ennum Ezhuthum', Perasiriyar Anbazhagan's 'School Development Scheme' and free power to farmers have made Tamil Nadu the number one State in the county. The State aims to achieve a one trillion US $ economy by 2030. To achieve this target, it planned an Investors meet, styled 'Investors' first address is Tamil Nadu' to make the State the number one industrialized state in the country and to provide employment opportunities to educated youth.

To enable the younger generation and people from all sections to know about the great achievements of the State Government, the Information and Public Relations Department has published a book titled 'Eedilla Aatchi, Eerande Saatchi'. Books on the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Golden words, announcements made in the Assembly under Rule 110, speeches made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, and speeches made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on various occasions (4 volumes), Kaala Pezhai, video cassette on two years achievement were also released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open a photo exhibition on achievements of the State Government in the past 2 years in the Departments of Medicine, Agriculture, Education, Industries, Local Government, Social Welfare, Public Works and various development works being implemented by the above Departments and important Departmental functions. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also witnessed the photo exhibition.

'Dravidian Model Governance will continue for the next ten years without any slackening'

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Government, which has come to power for the sixth time in the State, is entering the third year of its present rule, after completing two successful years.

Every day in the calendar is bringing good things to the people of the State. Every day, we are conceiving good schemes for the welfare of the people. We find all-round development and we are bringing new growth in every Department.

The great journey of the Dravidian Model Government's people's rule, which has attracted attention from all sides, is sure to continue for the next 10 years without any slackening.

-Social media post of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ***Thiru. M.K. Stalin*** *- 07.05.2023.*

‘I will be one among you, the one who is always for you’

Speech delivered by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** after distributing pension benefits to one lakh beneficiaries, bank debit card for higher education assistance under the ‘Pudhumai Penn’ Scheme, and shields to beneficiaries under the ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ Scheme, on 06.05.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, at Kalaivanar Arangam on 06.05.2023, in connection with the completion of 2 years rule, distributed benefits to 10 beneficiaries as a mark of distribution to one lakh beneficiaries under the Social Security Pension Scheme, bank debit cards for higher education assistance to 10 women under the ‘Pudhumai Penn’ Scheme, and shields to 5 beneficiaries under the ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ Scheme.

Distribution of pension benefits to one lakh beneficiaries under the Social Security Scheme

Under the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, the Government of Tamil Nadu, with a view of ensuring security to marginalized people, has been

implementing the pension scheme. Under the scheme, all those eligible beneficiaries will get a monthly pension of Rs. 1,000. One of the frontline schemes of the Government of Tamil Nadu is the Social Security scheme, which benefits the elderly, differently-abled people, deserted women and agricultural workers, through which 34,62,092 beneficiaries are getting a monthly pension of Rs. 1,000 under 12 types of schemes.

At present there are over 64,098 eligible persons in the waiting list in various Districts. Along with them 35,902 (totally one lakh) are included to be given a monthly pension of Rs. 1,000 (Rs.1,500 for differently-abled) from June this year and an order to this effect has been issued by the Hon'ble Chief Minister sanctioning pension for one lakh poor and marginalized people.

On this basis, about one lakh poor and marginalized people, who are in the lower rungs of society will get monthly pension from June this year. As a mark of handing over the pension order, the Hon'ble Chief Minister gave the orders to 10 persons as a token.

Distribution of Bank Debit Cards towards educational assistance for higher education, under the 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on 05.09.2022, inaugurated the 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme at function sponsored by the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department. Under the scheme, girl students who have studied in Government schools from the 6th to 12th standard will be given a scholarship of Rs.1,000 per month for their higher education, under the 'Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance' Scheme.

Under the scheme, girl students are imparted higher education for gender equality, prevention of child marriages, economic assistance is given to poor women who could not continue higher education due to family circumstances, to reduce the number of drop outs among girl students at the school level, to enable girl students to pursue higher education, to improve the job opportunities for women, to ensure socio-economic protection of women and through that create a knowledge society. Under the first phase, 1,16,210 girl students and in the second phase another 94,507 girl students, totally 2,10,717 girl students, have benefited. Under the scheme, Rs. 121.18 crore has been disbursed as educational assistance for higher education to girl students.

In continuation of the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister today handed over bank debit cards to 10 more girl students under the 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister congratulated and handed over shields to the beneficiaries of 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on 01.03.2022, inaugurated 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme to improve the employment opportunities of youths of the State by giving them skill development training based on industries demand. Under the scheme, in the year 2022-2023, 13 lakh youths have been given skill development training.

Apart from college syllabus, skill development programme in tune with changing technologies is given to the youths. The speciality of the programme is that the skill based training is given by specialists in various technologies. Under the scheme, 4,98,972 students in 483 engineering colleges and 8,11,338 students in 842 Arts and Science Colleges benefited.

Through this programme, students benefited and got employment with a salary of Rs.40 lakh per annum. Employment camps are conducted in the college campus for the skill development trained students.

During the year 2022-2023, under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme, 1,15,682 final year students of the engineering colleges got skill development training from multi-national companies like Siemens, Dassalt, Microsoft, IBM and Cisco Autodesk and reputed Indian companies L&T, TCS, Infosys and NSE. As a result, in the employment opportunity camps organized throughout the State, 59,132 students benefited. Such employment camps will be organized till this month-end.

Through this scheme, in the Arts and Science Colleges, 2,48,734 final year students were given skill development training. As a result, there is the possibility of 62,634 students getting employment in the camps organized in April throughout the State. These camps will be conducted till June end.

Again, steps are being taken to organize employment oriented camps, throughout the State along with CII, TIDCO, SIPCOT, MSME, ELCOT, DISH, Employment, StartupTN, Guidance TN, FICCI, NASSCOM to provide employment opportunities to several lakh students.

In continuation of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over shields to engineering, arts and science college students, who benefited under the skill development programme and got employment with high salary. The Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the shields to the students and congratulated them.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion:

At the outset, I would like to extend my warm welcome and thanks to all of you. 'Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin enum naan'

(I, Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin), is a voice that you cannot forget. Two years ago, on this date, I took charge as the Chief Minister of the State, with your affection, love and support. And from then on, I have dedicated myself to take the State on the path of development. Sometimes I used to question myself, whether I will be able to do justice to the confidence that the people have reposed on me, will it be possible for me to successfully complete the tasks entrusted to me by the people. At such times, three personalities gave me strength and energy. They are Thanthai Periyar, Arignar Anna and Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

The Tamil people, the Dravidian race which was enslaved by Sanathanam for thousands of years was successfully converted into a society of self respecting people by Thanthai Periyar, through his indefatigable efforts till his 95th year. Perarignar Anna, with the lofty aim of securing the political rights for the self-respecting people, launched a political movement and succeeded in coming to power. Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, through the numerous welfare schemes implemented in his rule showed to the entire country how a State should be ruled.

Along with them, I also think about Annal Ambedkar, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, Kanniyamigu Quaid-e-Millath and Thozhar Jeevanandam. Then I got the strength and self-confidence that I could accomplish the task successfully assigned to me.

It is not new for me to work for the people. Right from birth, I grew in the Gopalapuram residence that faced all the pressures of political life. Right from a young age, I dedicated myself to the Dravida Iyakkam and accomplished the tasks assigned to me by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. During the last 50 years, I have been in politics and met many challenges. Perarignar Anna used to say that you must have the heart to bear anything. You must practice enduring the challenges you face, said Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. The Dravida Iyakkam is like the earth which puts up with everything that stands on it. That is why after the party's success in the last Assembly election, I placed the victory certificate on Kalaignar's memorial. At that time, I took the pledge that the Government under my control would function not only for those who voted for us but for those who had not supported us. I am the Chief Minister for the entire State. This power is given to me by the people and I shall fulfill my duties without taking any rest and work to my utmost strength. The result of my efforts is seen in the affection you have shown to me. This gives me the satisfaction that I am performing my duty well. When people praised the schemes implemented by the Government, their praise did not come from their lips but from their hearts. There is no need for me to answer those who ask what is the Dravidian Model. Your happiness and smiles are the answers to them. The Thirukkural declares that all human beings are born equal. Dravidian Model says that opportunities are for all. Dravidian model cannot be understood by those who try to divide the people on the basis of caste, community, through power and with arrogance. Dravidian Model is known to the intelligent Tamil people who voted us to power. You need not worry about those who are occupying posts without any concern for the people. It is enough that we do our duty.

Before the Assembly polls, I started my 'Ungal Thoguthiyil Stalin' programme and toured all the 234 constituencies. During the tour, I received petitions from you. At that time, I assured you that hereafter your worries are my worries and your demands and expectations will be taken care of by me. I assured you that the D.M.K. Government will find solutions within 100 days of coming to power. Dravida Model governance is one that does what it says. We did not bother whether those who had given petitions had voted for us or not and whether the D.M.K. won or was defeated in that particular constituency. Most of the demands have been met by the present Government.

Today too in this conference, apart from speaking of the achievements of the Government, we have made arrangements for distributing pension and assistance under 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme to one lakh beneficiaries.

Fort St. George has been converted into a residence of poor people and the Secretariat into a primary office to improve the lives of all the people in Tamil Nadu. The face of the Government is not power but love and passion. The face of the Government is not arrogance but democracy. The face of the Government is not affectation but simplicity. The face of the Government is not dictatorship but equality. The face of the Government is not 'Sanathanam' but Social Justice. That is the reason it has been opposed by a handful but liked by many people.

Our Government is based on social justice, equality, self respect and fraternity.

After successfully completing two years of office, we are stepping into the third year. This Dravidian Model Government has touched the 8 crore people of Tamil Nadu in one way or the other.

If there are children in your family, to ensure their nutrition, the Government is providing nutritious food to children.

If you have children going to Government school, they are being given morning breakfast.

If you have daughters going for higher education after completing their schooling in Government schools, they are given a scholarship of Rs. 1,000 per month under the Pudhumai Penn Scheme.

Fare-less travel in buses has been ensured for all the female members of your family. Under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme, youths studying in colleges are given training for jobs.

If you are a farmer, you get free power for agriculture operations. Through women self groups, we are offering more financial assistance. The present Government is extending a helping hand to all members of society, including transgenders, temple priests, fishermen and workers.

Apart from protecting Government employees, this Government is also creating more job opportunities. Through new investments we are creating more job opportunities. Men and women, village and town and children and elders, this Government is functioning to provide a basis for growth of all. Perarignar Anna said that the people's verdict is supreme. People's happiness is our happiness.

Mary Ammal who has a roadside pushcart eatery near Madhavaram Dairy had applied for old-age pension of Rs. 1,000 per month during the previous regime. But she did not get it. But immediately after our Government came to power she has been sanctioned the old-age pension. The happiness of Mary Ammal is our happiness. Sajeeth from Taramani is a hearing-impaired boy. He did not have money to purchase a hearing aid. Today, I fixed the aid to the boy's ear. Sajeeth was happy that he was able to hear. I rejoiced in his happiness.

You all know about Tanya, a school-going girl. She belongs to Thiruvalluvar District. She was avoided by fellow students as she suffered from facial disfigurement. After hearing the news, I immediately made arrangements to admit her in the hospital for treatment. After facial reconstruction surgery, the girl is attending school happily. I went to her house and greeted her. The joy I got on that occasion is limitless.

The joy that differently-abled Bhavani Ganesh experienced while wetting her legs on Marina beach is my happiness. Irulas and Narikuravas, who are at the bottom rungs of society have been provided with basic necessities in all Districts. The Government has ensured their self-respect and honour. I myself personally went to the houses of Narikuravas and took breakfast. Though the food was very spicy, I felt their great love. It is their love and their affection that has brought name and fame to this Government. You can’t bring this happiness on the faces of people artificially. Only the happiness in the heart brings smiles to the face.

During the state-wide tour I could see the happiness in the hearts of the people when their faces lit up with joy during the distribution of welfare measures in various Districts.

Every day we are implementing many welfare schemes in various Districts and

towns providing

- house site pattas,
- education loans,
- credit facilities for self- employment,
- co-operative loans,
- jewel loans,
- credit facilities for women self-help groups,
- new power connections for agriculturists,
- crop loans,
- new pension orders,
- incentives for temple employees,
- free uniforms, shoes and book bags,
- saplings for farmers,
- farm products package,
- roads,
- over-bridges,
- housing colonies,
- nutrition centres and
- social welfare centres…..

The Administration, which was 'corrupt' in the previous administration has been set right in the past 2 years.

In the Secretariat itself, so far I have convened more than 350 Department-wise review meetings, to find solutions for many problems, and signed more than 6,905 files till date. We didn't stop with that. To ensure that all the schemes conceived in the Secretariat reach the last man, we have launched 'Chief Minister on field review scheme' and so far I have covered 16 Districts in 4 phases and reviewed the status of various programmes. If I have to list the achievements of our two years rule, you may have to sit here for 2 more days!

Muthamizharignar Dr. Kalaignar's style of functioning was that he would implement what he promised and speak of the things his Government had achieved. That was the characteristic of his rule. But this Dravidian Model Government is achieving things that were not assured and is doing so without much ado.

When I took charge as the Chief Minister, what was the economic position of the State and the treasury left by the previous Government? We have changed all that and taken the State to the path of recovery.

We are trying to get back the rights of the State from the Union Government. Our aim is to create a prosperous Tamil Nadu and make it number one in the country. I have the confidence that we will make the State a place where everything is available for everyone.

Your happiness and greetings will make me work harder to achieve my target. I shall work to fulfill all my promises fully. I shall be with you and also will live with you. The coming years will be for your welfare. With the hope that your support will continue even after that in the coming years, I conclude my speech.

On field visit programme to Viluppuram, Cuddalore, Kallakurichi Districts..

Hon’ble Chief Minister interacts with traders, farmers, fisherfolk and entrepreneurs, hears out their demands, assures them of affirmative action

Under the ‘Chief Minister on Field visit’ Programme, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** interacted with the representatives of various traders associations, farmers representatives, fishermen representatives, belonging to Viluppuram, Cuddalore and Kallakurichi Districts.

Under the Chief Minister on field visit programme of various projects and programmes being implemented in the Districts, the Hon’ble Chief Minister first visited Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupathur and Tiruvannamalai Districts on February 1 and February 2 and reviewed the progress and the status of various developmental programmes and welfare schemes in these Districts.

Following this, the Hon’ble Chief Minister visited Salem and reviewed the progress of various programmes, being implemented in Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri and Namakkal Districts on February 15 and February 16. He then visited

Madurai District on 05.03.2023 and 06.03.2023 and reviewed the progress of various programmes in Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Dindigul and Theni Districts.

After these visits, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, on 26.04.2023, arrived at Viluppuram to review the progress of various programmes in Viluppuram, Cuddalore, and Kallakurichi. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also made a spot inspection of Olakkur Panchayat Union Office in Tindivanam in Viluppuram District.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister interacted with the representatives of Micro, Small and Medium entrepreneurs of these Districts, entrepreneurs of SIDCO, Tindivanam Venmaniyathur, federation of Cuddalore District agriculturist association, farmers association of EID Parry sugarcane farmers, small and micro investors, representatives of Fishermen association, rice mill owners of Chinna Salem and Kallakurichi, Micro, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs of Kallakurichi District, farmers representatives of various associations and patiently heard their demands and grievances.

In the interaction, the office-bearers of the Viluppuram District Micro and Small Industries Association thanked and congratulated the Hon'ble Chief Minister for his various efforts to make Tamil Nadu, the number one State in industrial development and for improving infrastructure facilities in the State to attract foreign enterprises. They wanted the Government to start an IT Park at Viluppuram and for heavy industry manufacturing companies in Viluppuram District to enable the youths in Viluppuram, Cuddalore, Kallakurichi and Tiruvannamalai Districts to get job opportunities. Their other demands included starting industrial estates by the SIDCO using non-farm lands in these Districts, arrangements for imparting training and seminars for budding entrepreneurs, a commercial complex to showcase and market finished products of local manufacturers and an industrial park for gold jewel artisans.

The office-bearers of the Micro, Small and Medium industries of Kallakurichi thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for his efforts to industrialize the District by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for starting a footwear unit at a cost of Rs. 2,302 crore. They also demanded proper maintenance of street lights in the Asanur SIDCO industrial park and issue of sales deeds to those industries, which have started production.

The Tindivanam Venmaniyathur SIDCO Entrepreneurs Association demanded an ESI hospital in Tindivanam, and a separate Sub-station for Tindivanam SIDCO.

The office-bearers of the Farmers Association thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for desilting canals and demanded a ground level check dams on the Coleroon River basin to prevent sea water erosion and schemes for starting cashew, plantain and jackfruit-based value-added industries to help farmers to earn

more money. Increase of the subsidy given to sugarcane farmer for drip irrigation from once in 7 years to once in 3 years, measures for selling traditional rice and millet varieties in fair price shops, subsidy for coconut nutrients should be given as is being given for paddy, groundnut and pulse nutrients, there must be large-scale drying yard for coconuts, urad dal based industries in Ulundurpet area, check dams on the 15-km long stretch on the Gadilam River from Periyasevalai to Ulundurpet, maize and tapioca-based industries in Chinnasalem and Kallakurichi area, a permanent regulated market in Uppuvelur village in Vasanur Division in Viluppuram District, agriculture implements centre in Gingee, separate procurement centre for small millets, nutrient flour units to manufacture value-added millets like kambu, ragi and thinai; to curtail the use of artificial fertilizers green manure must be produced and supplied to farmers, Viluppuram District must be declared as seed manufacturing zone, agricultural college must be started in Viluppuram District, paddy cleaning centres must be established in Tindivanam and Gingee.

The Federation of the Tamil Nadu Traders' Associations thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for waiving the market fee for 40 agricultural products. The federation demanded a common facilitation centre with Government subsidy for wood-carving artisans. The Rice Mill Owners Association demanded exemption for rice mills from peak hour power tariff.

The Fishermen Association representatives demanded increase in relief amount now given to the fishermen families during the fishing ban period, increase in the quota of subsidized kerosene/ diesel/ petrol supply to country boat/ power-boat

owners, new fishing net units in Nallavadu, Samiyarpet, Chinnur North and Thandavarayan Chozhaganpet Villages for the benefit of fishermen of Cuddalore District and several other demands.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, after hearing the demands of various associations, assured them that the Government would take suitable action on their demands.

Later the Chief Minister made surprise visits to the Olakkur Panchayat Union Office.

Under the Chief Minister on the Field Visit Programme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister made a surprise visit to the Panchayat Union Office, Olakkur in Tindivanam Division on his way to Viluppuram on 26.04.2023.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the officials that they should see to it that there was no drinking water scarcity in rural areas during the summer season by taking advance measures. He also enquired about the status and progress of village road and Jal Jeevan Schemes.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister gave instructions to the officials concerned that they should ensure that the works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme are actually carried out. He also went through the record books of the Rural Employment Guarantee and directed the employees that the names, number of working days and the wages should be clearly mentioned in the books.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister wanted to give priority to houseless people in allotting houses under the Kalaignar Veettu Vasathi Thittam and complete all the houses under construction at the earliest.

Paranur Rehabilitation Home inspection

A Rehabilitation Home for leprosy patients was set up in Paranur Village in Chengalpet in 1974 when Dr.Kalaignar was the Chief Minister. At present there are 61 male and 58 women patients in the Rehabilitation Home.

On his way to Viluppuram for reviewing the projects under the Chief Minister's Field Visit Programme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister made a surprise visit to the Government's Rehabilitation Home for Differently-abled at Paranur in Chengalpet District on 26.04.2023. He enquired about the facilities available to the differently-abled persons at the home. He distributed clothes and bed-sheets to the inmates of the Home.

The inmates informed the Hon'ble Chief Minister that all the requirements required by them were met in the home and thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for his concern towards them. They thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for increasing their food allowance from Rs. 42 to Rs.100. They demanded early completion of the water tank at the 5th Ward, and supply of one garbage van. After hearing their grievances sympathetically, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the

officials to take immediate steps to find a solution to their demands.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister addressed the officials at the Review meeting.

My hearty welcome to all of you.

First of all, I thank you for maintaining law and order and harmony in your respective jurisdictions.

The law and order situation plays a vital role in the long-term growth of a State, though there are other factors. Only if there is peace in the State, socio-economic progress will take place without any slackening. Today, Tamil Nadu is getting investments from all around. For this, the peaceful atmosphere prevailing in the State is the main reason. You all form the basis for that.

Sometimes, small issues turn bigger, if they were not handled properly at the initial stage. News about such incidents spreads very fast. So even small issues should not be ignored.

Secondly, I request you, as the Police Administration and the District Administration, to understand the reach and impact of social media on society. For example, you would have arrested and lodged a person in jail in a criminal case. But the video of the criminal act would be circulating in a big way to make it appear gigantic. It is a big challenge to face the effects of this technological age.

Taking this into consideration, you should be prompt in presenting the true position to the public through the

media. Again, by giving the true picture to the media, rumours about the incident can be prevented.

Details collected through the District wing of the Q Branch CID, social media and the District Administration should be carefully analyzed and proper preventive action should be taken. I have been reiterating that such action can avert criminal incidents.

By taking precautionary measures beforehand, many criminal incidents can be prevented. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, there are no communal and caste clashes and planned violence and riots. If this situation is to continue, you have to expand your patrolling activities. Higher officials should involve themselves in field action. Only then will subordinate staff function with greater enthusiasm.

It is the duty of the police to prevent the youth from falling into drug addiction. In this, the role of the District Collectors is much more important. For this they must be in constant touch with the Headmasters, Principals and Correspondents of education institutions. The institutions may have details and complaints in this regard. You should be aware of all that. You should create awareness about the drug menace among students. You should take severe action in controlling drugs. You should realize that this involves the future of the State.

Similarly, the safety of children and women is very, very important. The police should take full responsibility for their safety. Immediate action should be taken on crimes against children and women Special attention should be given to such cases.

You should see to it that social crimes and the drug menace do not occur in your jurisdiction. Such action itself will ensure peace and harmony. Every Police Superintendent should undertake periodic and surprise visits to police stations under their control and conduct review of pending cases of murder and robbery. You should have good relations with the general public and with voluntary organizations.

You need the support of all people for the successful functioning of the Police Department. You should ensure that there are no lock-up deaths in the station this year. For such a situation to continue, monitoring by the Superintendents is essential.

Similarly, those who come to police stations should be treated with dignity. The functioning of Police stations should be such that members of the general public do not have any fear in approaching police stations for filing complaints.

Rather than making claims that the police force is a friend of the public, members of the public should declare that the police.

We should conduct ourselves in a manner that we don't have to declare that the police force is a friend of the people; the public should assert that the police force is their friend. With the confidence that you will conduct yourself in this manner, I take leave of you.

‘Dravidian Model Government ensures freedom for Police Department to maintain peace and social harmony in the State’

Reply of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly after a discussion on the demands of Police Department and Fire and Rescue Services Department-21.04.2023.

Hon’ble Speaker Sir:

Though I am the Chief Minister, the Demands for my Home Department was taken last after discussions for all the demands for other Departments were completed. You know the reason for it. You all know that all Departments are my Departments and that is why it has been taken like that. For that, I thank all of you.

The Hon’ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development in his reply to the demands pertaining to his Ministry, quoted the words of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, after mentioning the Departments in the Anna Ministry, said that though we represent different Departments all of us belong to Annadurai. That is true.

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar had first thought of naming me as Ayyathurai. So if Hon'ble Ministers are holding portfolios of various Departments, you are all like the blood vessels in my body.

This is April, 2023. Two years ago, during this April month people decided to hand over power to the D.M.K.. They thought that Tamil Nadu which had slid down would rise. On May 7, I, Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin took charge as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

In another 2 weeks, the D.M.K. will complete 2 years in power and step into the third year. We have been running the administration in such a way that the people have already decided that hereafter only the D.M.K. should rule the State.

Remarkable Records

Despite a financial crisis and lack of support from the Union Government in financial management, we have achieved remarkable records for the nation and its people.

Through the scheme for free travel for women in buses, women have undertaken 265 crore free rides.

We are going to give Rs.1,000 per month to the women head of families from September this year. Due to this one crore women will benefit. I have participated in various Government functions in Districts to distribute welfare assistance to people. So far one crore people have received welfare assistance through those functions alone. The revenue deficit, which was Rs. 62,000 crore when the D.M.K. took over power, has been reduced to Rs.30,000 crore by the current estimate.

We have attracted to Tamil Nadu, new investments to the tune of Rs. 2 lakh crore.

Agricultural productivity has increased and the area under cultivation has increased.

There is no need to tell Department wise achievements. The Ministers in their reply to their demands had explained in detail. The present Dravidian Model Government is proud of those achievements.

There is a smile on the faces of agriculturists as they are getting free power supply for their agricultural operations. There is a smile on the faces of school-going children as they get free breakfast in their school itself. There is a smile on the faces of women who have to commute to work due to ticket-less bus travel.

Dravidian Model Government

Likewise, the Government of Tamil Nadu is giving direct benefits to the people. That is the reason that it is difficult to change the minds of people, even if some people hurl baseless charges at this Government or indulge in chicanery. We have not only won the elections but the hearts of people and occupied their hearts permanently.

This is not the Government of an individual called Stalin alone, nor that of the D.M.K. party. It is the Government of a race, a Government

of 8 crore people and a model of Dravidian Ideology. The Dravidian Model charter is inclusive of Social Justice, Equality, Equal Justice, Brotherhood, Language Rights, Racial Rights and State Autonomy.

I am being driven by Thiruvalluvar's norms, Kaniyan Poonkundran's 'All cities are my cities and all people are my relatives', the path shown by the Dravidian stalwarts Sir Pitty Theagarayar, Natesanar and T.M.Nair, the equality of Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna's assertions for the rights of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar's social justice for oppressed people and Perasiriyar Anbazhagan's language and race rights.

These are all the reasons for the success, achievements, majesty and courage of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's governance. A Government should be a people's welfare Government. At the same time it should be a principle-oriented Government. It should not move away from its principles. On one side people's welfare and on the other, firm principles. The present Government is going to complete its 2 years on such a track.

The present Government attracts the attention of the entire country. This is not an individual recognition for Stalin alone. But the reputation belongs to the entire Cabinet and that of our alliance parties. To spell it out further, the Opposition parties have the right to point out our mistakes. But they have failed to perform their duties, which was explained in detail by the Hon'ble Speaker. The behavior of the Opposition pains me too.

This House had witnessed many healthy arguments. I accept all your healthy arguments. I always take your arguments, whether it is in favour or against. Because you (Opposition) all speak only for the people. I thank the Hon'ble Speaker, who, like a teacher, is conducting the House as per norms like a headmaster.

Twelve members have participated in the discussion for demands pertaining to the Home Department. I thank those who spoke in support and those who opposed the Demands. Comments have been made here on the actions of some policemen.

In this connection, I would like to mention the speech of Perarignar Anna. 'The behavior of the police reflects that of the society from which they come. They are not very far removed from their society.

'If the police force functions well, it reflects society. Similarly if they make some mistake, it shows the shortcomings of society. They are forced to find solutions for issues which were not created by them'.

'They have to function with forbearance in every way. They must not become disturbed themselves and must function with calm detachment. In accordance with their training, they have to conduct themselves with duty consciousness', said Perarignar Anna. This

is how the police force in the State has been conducting itself.

There may be some deficiencies in their functioning. I would not say that there are no shortcomings in their activities. When such shortcomings were seen, they were not ignored, but corrected. If you have complaints that the criminals escaped or that they were allowed to escape, you tell me. Immediately, I will take action. I assure the House that however big or influential the criminal is, I will definitely take action without any partiality. At the same time, I appeal to the police to cultivate the habit of correcting their wrong actions, however small they are.

Peaceful State

The Hon'ble Ministers in their reply to the demands pertaining to their Ministries, listed the positive achievements of the State. But I am going to enumerate the points that are not there in Tamil Nadu. There are no communal clashes in the State; no religious fights; no riots; no police firings and no lockup deaths. The result of these negative things is the arrival of new industries, new investments, new institutions, all-round growth, good name for our rule and the State's reputation of being a 'Peaceful Tamil Nadu'. When a State is seen to grow and develop, it is basically because peace reigns in the State.

The Government has been maintaining law and order and has removed fear from the hearts of people. We have allowed the police to function independently, without any interference. That is the reason, thieves, anti-social elements and riot mongers have been arrested immediately after incidents.

Saint Thiruvalluvar said that justice requires that proper punishment is meted out without any partiality and support to those who indulge in crimes. The State police are taking severe action without taking sides. Due to severe action taken by the police against caste and communal fanatics and anti-social elements, the State is peaceful without any caste or communal clashes.

The criminal activities in the State have come down due to severe action against rowdies, thieves, robbers , those who indulge in extortion of money, sale of illegal lottery tickets, ration rice and sand smugglers, those, who indulge in 'Katta Panchayat' and collection of usurious interest, ganja peddlers, irregularities of financial institutions, cyber crimes and those who spread rumours through the social media. These criminals are taken into preventive custody. Since action is taken immediately after the crimes, criminal activities have come down in the State.

The standing example of how a major riot has been prevented by the swift action of the Government, is that immediate action taken, when a rumour was spread that North Indian

workers in the State were attacked. Thousands of workers, belonging to Bihar, Assam and West Bengal are working in the State. The Government has taken steps to ensure that these migrant workers work safely and peacefully. At this juncture, a rumour that migrant workers were attacked in the State had been floated. I conducted an advisory meeting in which I directed stern action against those responsible for the rumour.

The DGP said that an incident that had happened in North India had been portrayed as if it happened in Tamil Nadu. The District Administration and the Police Department in various Districts assured the migrant workers, who are mostly working in hotels and construction activities and allayed their fears.

I contacted the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Thiru. Nitish Kumar explained to him the protective measures taken by the police for safeguarding North Indian workers. The leader of the D.M.K. party in Parliament, Thiru. T.R.Baalu, on 07.03.2023, met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar and explained to him the steps taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu to protect migrant workers. You all know all these things.

A delegation of Bihar officials, under its Rural Development Department Secretary, Thiru. Balamurugan, visited Chennai, Tiruppur and Coimbatore, met the respective District Collectors and officials, and also the migrant workers. The team expressed its satisfaction over the actions taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu and also briefed newsmen about their satisfaction.

I personally met the migrant workers on 07.03.2023 at Kavalkinaru in Tirunelveli District and explained to them the various measures taken by the Government for their safety. In this connection, from January to this date, 88 cases have been registered and 178 persons have been detained.

A special team from the Tamil Nadu Police went to Telangana, Bihar and Jharkhand State and arrested Rupesh Kumar of Bihar on 06.03.2023 in Telangana, Prashanth Kumar at Jharkhand on 11.03.2023 and Upendra Sahani in Bihar and brought them to Tamil Nadu. A case has been registered against the Uttar Pradesh BJP State spokesperson for spreading rumours through radio. He has got bail through the High Court.

Apart from this Manish Kashyap of Bihar, who is running a Youtube Channel has been arrested under the National Security Act. It has been said that in the future, the law and order situation would be affected throughout the world by the rumours spread on social media; in this connection, the steps taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu on the issue of the safety of migrant labourers have been appreciated by other States also.

The premier newspaper, the 'Times of India' wrote an editorial in this regard. Publications like the New Indian Express and Frontline magazine have written appreciating the Government. This Government has well realized the contribution of North Indian workers to the growth of the State.

Tamil Nadu is famous for providing a new life to those who come from other States; the State Government is providing all the necessary protection to migrant workers considering them as our own. Swift action taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu has prevented disturbances in Tamil Nadu and in some northern States also.

The people and the members of the House know in whose period police shooting was ordered on agitators and which Government ordered an enquiry commission on the incident under a retired High Court Judge and took action. I don't want to go into details of the incident.

But yesterday, the Opposition Leader spoke about police firing during the Sterlite agitation. I would like to ask only one question. He will be hearing my speech from his chamber. Who ordered the police firing after 100 days of peaceful agitation? Why is the Leader of the Opposition not revealing this? He did not want to reveal it when he was the Chief Minister and he does not want to reveal it when he is Leader of the Opposition. But as far as our Government is concerned, law and order is maintained without the loss of even one life during police firing.

For example, due to skillful handling of the agitation by the police after the death of a girl student of Kaniyamur private school in Kallakurichi District on 12.07.2022 there was no loss of life. This alone would show how an agitation should be handled with responsibility.

Even in preventing deaths in police custody, this Government has set a record. In the year 2019, 11 persons died in 11 stations. But so far no lock up deaths have taken place in the present regime. When compared to the previous Government, deaths in police custody have come down considerably. We are working towards ensuring that there are no lock-up deaths in the State.

The aim of the State Government is to prevent crimes. But crimes do happen here and there and in those cases, the Police have arrested the culprits immediately.

The Police have intensified vigil in border areas, in coastal Districts, in forest areas and hills by setting up check posts and keeping a close watch on extremist, fundamentalist and banned organizations.

On 23.10.2022, in the car cylinder blast incident in Ukkadam in Coimbatore, police registered a case and immediately arrested those involved in the incident. Again, in the review meeting on 26.10.2022, held under my chairmanship, it was decided to recommend to

the Union Government to shift the case to the National Investigation Agency as the State felt that case had much higher ramifications and international connections. The Government of Tamil Nadu is the only Government which recommended the case to the NIA within 3 days. The Government of Tamil Nadu is the only Government which quickly transferred the case. Moreover, for protecting Coimbatore city, it was decided to set up new police stations in Karumbukadai, Sundarapuram and Goundampalayam, to set up a special police force to curb such incidents and to fix additional CCTV cameras in vital places in the city. Thanks to the steps taken by the Government as per the advice of the Q Branch of Police Intelligence wing, there have been no communal clashes in the State and it remains peaceful.

To prevent brainwashing of youths by extremist organizations, counselling has been given with the help of psychologists, religious scholars and parents. As per their advice, during 2022-2023, 20 youths were brought into the mainstream.

I would like to place statistics about the Law and Order situation in the State. During 2021 and 2022, out of 182 incidents of murder for gain, 171 have been solved. Out of 3,194 murder cases, 3,144 cases have been solved. Out of 252 joint robbery cases, 242 cases have been solved. 4,240 cases have been detected out of 5,281 cases of robbery. In the 874 cases of violence, criminals have been arrested in 849 cases. In 90 sexual violence cases, the persons concerned were arrested in 75 cases. Out of 9,440 POCSO cases, in 9,340 cases, criminals have been arrested.

Due to an awareness campaign conducted by this Government, members of the public are coming forward to report crimes immediately after their occurrence. Because of the appointment of receptionists in police stations and the humanitarian approach of the police, the registration of criminal cases has increased in some places. But unlike the previous Government in which the registration of cases was unnecessarily delayed for a long time, cases are registered forthwith. The cases are not buried but investigated and the culprits arrested. I would like to state to this House that the statistics only show this proactive action against crimes in the State.

Some members spoke about the financial irregularities of some financial institutions like Arudhra. Yesterday itself, I gave a detailed explanation. Today also I would like to register my views in this House firmly and strongly. These people cheat the public by inducing greed in them. I have instructed the police to keep a watch on these financial institutions.

I would like to point out here that it was the D.M.K. headed by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, which enacted a law to prevent such frauds. When people invest their money in such

financial institutions, they should be vigilant and careful.

I would like to present some incidents in which the present Government took immediate steps on some criminal activities, which were not taken by the previous Government. Everyone knows about the Pollachi sexual violence case, which in the headlines at that time. The common public, political parties and the NGOs had to fight for just registering a case in the police stations. That was the situation in the previous Government. We (Opposition) fought for taking the case to the CBI as the case was not properly enquired by the Crime Branch CID. Out of 9 persons arrested in the case, one person was an AIAD.M.K. Youth wing office bearer. The present Government, which was for eliminating crimes against women, appointed a Woman officer on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu to assist the CBI.

We have allotted Rs. 19,42,000 for setting up a special court with CCTV camera, Judge room, e-trial room and special protection rooms for witnesses. After the beginning of the judicial enquiry three months ago, out of 80 witnesses, 4 have given witness. In the sexual offences against women, the Government has been closely monitoring the cases and wanted to complete them as early as possible.

The Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition in his speech yesterday said that they were going to demand the transfer of the Kodanad Case to the CBI. The incident happened during the AIAD.M.K. regime. Kodanadu bungalow was used as the Camp Office by the former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa, where murder, theft and suicide had taken place in a suspicious manner.

If only the investigation was done properly during the previous regime itself, there would not have been the necessity for the Opposition leader to raise the issue now. If evidence had been collected immediately and protected, the case would have been solved by now.

I would like to point out here that as many years have passed, it took time to bring out some issues completely. On September 9, 2021, when the D.M.K. was in power, the Leader of the Opposition said if you want to conduct the Kodanad case, you conduct the case. He said, you conduct a new investigation, we are not against it. The same leader in an interview to newsmen on August 18 said that there was no need for a further enquiry as the case was in the final stage. Now, he says that they would go to the CBI. Why is he faltering in this way?

He has also mentioned another thing. He said that some D.M.K. advocates helped the Kodanad accused Sayan. What had happened was the accused concerned, on 11.01.2019, met the Press along with Tehelka newsman, Mathew Samuel and accused the then Chief Minister (Thiru. Palanisami). Using his power, the then Chief Minister filed a case against them immediately. The D.M.K. lawyers helped them to fight the case legally. How

could the D.M.K. keep quiet, when the former Chief Minister himself tried to hide the murder and theft that had happened in the house of his Chief Minister.

Another disaster left behind by the previous A.I.A.D.M.K. Government was drug trafficking. It was one of the illegal legacies left behind in the previous 10 years. That is the reason for the present decay in the State. That is the reason for the present Government's launch of 'Operation Ganja Vettai' immediately after seizures of narcotic drugs.

As per the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, the properties of drug peddlers are seized and their bank accounts are frozen. To annihilate the drug menace, a review meeting of District Collectors and Superintendents of Police was convened under my chairmanship. This is the first time that such a meeting was convened by a Chief Minister. Such a meeting was never held in the past. This was the first meeting that was convened under my leadership after the D.M.K. came to power.

Due to sustained action, the drug trafficking activities, including ganja, have come down greatly, when compared to the previous A.I.A.D.M.K. Government. Some police stations have reached a stage where there is no drug addiction in their limits. The cultivation of ganja has also been completely uprooted.

With a view to prevent movement of ganja from other States to Tamil Nadu, a new Enforcement wing has been formed by integrating the existing Prohibition Enforcement Wing with the Intelligence wing for the prevention of Drug Addiction.

To create awareness among school and college students, about 74 lakh students took a 'no drug pledge'. This was an international record. I also participated in the pledge-taking ceremony. Different measures taken from various angles have resulted in the decline of the Drugs 'empire', which was firmly entrenched in the State in the last 10 years and which has been demolished. This is the achievement of this present Government.

It is not enough to plan things, sitting in rooms. The schemes should be monitored closely and it should be ensured that the scheme benefits reach the people. That is the reason for the creation of the Department of 'Chief Minister on Field Visit' scheme. I tour the Districts and discuss things with the District officials concerned. This has resulted in good benefits.

As a part of the scheme, I convened a separate review meeting with the Superintendents of Police of Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur, Tiruvannamalai, Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar Districts. During the review meeting, the status of important, pending criminal cases, especially

against women and children and drug peddlers were discussed. Apart from these, the role of police in the welfare of the common people was discussed. Thanks to this review meeting, I was told regularly by the senior officers that there has been substantial improvement in the Police Administration.

Compared to three months average during the previous year, the murder crime rates in the last three months have come down by 13 per cent, theft cases by 18 per cent, group thefts by 11 per cent and riot cases by 26 per cent. The Department is giving more attention to intensification of crime investigation in important cases, conducting awareness programmes, implementing the pending arrest warrants, regular meeting of Police-Public grievance redressal meeting of Police and the Public by the SPs, interaction meetings by the SPs, police reception scheme and weekly holiday scheme. During my regular review meeting, awareness has been created among all that I would make surprise inspections to any police station and Government offices at any time.

On 29.09.2021, I made a surprise inspection of Adhiyamankottai Police Station in Dharmapuri District, and on 15.04.2022 Ambattur Police Station, and checked the case records, besides receiving petitions from the public. I also enquired about the status of petitions submitted by the public. These meetings have created a closeness between the Police and other Department officials.

The police should not only be a Department that punishes those who indulge in crimes, but also serve as a Department to prevent crimes. I have been repeatedly stressing this point. Due to the activities of the police, crimes have been coming down. To prevent crimes, body-worn cameras have been provided to the policemen.

After the D.M.K. came to power we have introduced innovative new systems, such as Smart policemen, Face Recognition System, National Fingerprint Identification system, Police App, Senior officer petition system, E-office, Bandobust Manager, Road safety patrol and drones.

Yesterday, the Opposition Leader listed various schemes introduced by his Government in his 45 minute speech. But he did not tell what steps had been taken to implement those schemes. But the present regime has revived those schemes which were kept in cold storage. We have not dumped those schemes just because they were announced by the previous regimes. The present Government is giving shape to those schemes also. This is the truth.

The police protect the State, and it is the duty of the Government to protect them. I know this well. During D.M.K. rule, the welfare of the police is always its first priority. Whenever the D.M.K. came to power and when Dr. Kalaignar was the Chief Minister, 3 Police Commissions

were set up to protect the interest of the police. These commissions have been set up for the Police Department and for bringing reforms to the Department.

Fifth Police Commission

During the previous regime, when I was the Opposition Leader, on several occasions, I had made demands for setting up a Police Commission. The then Chief Minister gave assurances. The announcement for the fourth Police Commission was made but it was not properly set up. It did not function also.

On the other hand, immediately after coming to power, the D.M.K. Government announced the formation of the Fifth Police Commission, under the chairmanship of a retired High Court Judge, Justice C.T.Selvam.

The interim report of the Fifth Police Commission was received on 17.03.2023. You can see the steps taken based on the Commission's recommendations, in today's announcements. After the submission of the Final Report, I assure the House that more welfare activities will be taken for the Police forces.

Receptionists have been appointed in all police stations to receive the public in a pleasing manner. For this post, 1,132 persons, who are mostly wards of policemen, who died in harness, have been appointed.

Since 13.06.2021, women police were exempted from the guard (sentry) duty on the Chief Minister's and VIP's convoy route. They are allotted lighter duties.

From 09.11.2021, Constables, Head-Constables, Sub-Inspectors and Deputy Superintendents, have been allotted more spacious houses than those they occupy at present.

From 10.11.2021, for sanctioning casual leave for the policemen, an app, by name CLAPP has been introduced.

From 16.11.2021, setting up of physical exercise centres for policemen in all Police Stations in 38 Districts and 7 Corporations, Rs. 90 lakh has been permitted.

The risk allowance of policemen has been increased from Rs. 800 to Rs. 1, 000 to protect the interest of policemen as per the G.O issued on 24.11.2021.

From 01.12.2021, wives of policemen are eligible for medical examinations and special tests for women.

Cash Contingency Fund for police stations has been increased for all police stations from 24.01.2022. From 04.03.2022, police canteens have been opened in 6 more Districts. Through a Government Order on 01.08.2022, to prevent drowning in the sea off Marina Beach, Marina Beach Life Saving Wing has been created. Since we issued Government Orders immediately after the announcements, we boldly cite these things. We have implemented many schemes for

women police. Women should be employed in power- oriented posts, said Thanthai Periyar and Dr.Kalaignar gave shape to that.

50th anniversary of women joining the Police force

From June 3, Dr.Kalaignar's Centenary birthday celebrations start. During the beginning of the Centenary Celebrations, the 50th anniversary of women joining the Police force, initiated by Dr.Kalaignar, was completed. Today the dream of thousands of women joining the police has become a reality. Tamil Nadu occupies the first 5 places in the number of women police in the country. At present, in my internal security team itself there is one Sub-Inspector and there are 8 constables. We celebrated the 50th anniversary of women joining the police force on 17.03.2023 in the Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai. We also released a special postal cover on the occasion. We introduced a novel scheme of 'Aval' for the protection of women. In that function I announced Navaratna Schemes for Women police.

1. Roll call for women police was relaxed from 7 am to 8 am.
2. Hostel facilities for women cops in Chennai and Madurai
3. Separate rest rooms with toilets will be provided in all police stations.
4. Crèche will be set up wherever necessary.
5. Kalaignar Police Award and Cups will be issued every year.
6. Instructions have been issued to sanction casual leave and transfer based on family circumstances.
7. Shooting competition will be organized annually for women cops
8. To find solutions to the problems of women, a national conference on women in police will be organized every year and
9. A carrier advisory council will be formed for the welfare of the women police.

These are 9 announcements and these announcements will be implemented at the earliest.

In Tamil Nadu, to ensure feminism and women rights and protection it is necessary that all the requirements of women police, right from constable to officers, should be met. That is the reason that the D.M.K. Government has been implementing various welfare schemes for the women police.

As far as the vacant posts are concerned, the Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services Recruitment Board is taking necessary steps to fill them. In the year 2021, 11,812 candidates have been selected for the posts of Second Grade Constables, Jailors and Firefighters. Similarly in the year 2022, examination has been conducted for filling 3,552 posts and the results were declared on 29.03.2023. For the vacant posts of Sub-Inspectors, examinations were conducted in 2022 and 438 have been selected.

For recruiting 615 Sub-Inspectors for the Armed Police and the Tamil Nadu Special Police Force and Taluk wings, to fill up 2,599 vacant posts in Tamil Nadu Special Police Force

and 106 Sub-Inspector (Technical) posts and 63 Sub-Inspectors (Finger Print), necessary announcements will be made soon.

As far as Deputy Superintendents of Police posts are concerned, during the year 2021-2022, a list of 91 selected candidates has already been released and appointment orders have been issued. As far as the year 2022-2023 is concerned, 47 vacant posts have been fixed and steps will be taken to release the selected candidates list.

During the discussion on the demand for the Police Department for the year 2021-2022, I announced that minor punishments against police officers would be withdrawn and they would be given entitled promotion and other benefits. I would like to inform the House, as per the announcement, a Government Order was issued on 07.12.2021 and 2,249 minor punishments were withdrawn.

Under the 'Chief Minister in your Department Scheme' , a total of 3,329 petitions were received from the police by the Director General of Police between 01.07.2021 and 31.03.2023. Of these 2,930 petitions were accepted and punishments were withdrawn. Apart from this, when I reviewed the DGP Office on 22.09.2022, policemen gave petitions to me appealing to condone small punishments served on them. Of these 336 petitions have been taken up by the 'Chief Minister in Your Department' petitions and they are under process.

As far as minor punishments are concerned, I am happy to announce that totally 5,992 petitions were received and of these solutions were found for 5,179 petitions and the punishments were withdrawn.

The role of the Forensic Sciences Department is important in solving the crimes. After the takeover of the present Government, the headquarters of the Department in Chennai, with 15 forensic wings, has received ISO Certification 0n 13.05.2022.

In the beginning of the year 2022, there were 19,347 cases and another 81,328 cases were received in 2022, totalling 1.675 lakh cases. In these, the Forensic Department has given its report for 91,506 cases till 31.12.2022.

In the history of the Forensic Department, I am proud to say that only during the D.M.K. rule, more than 91,000 study reports have been submitted. To strengthen this further a new DNA research wing is to be established in Coimbatore, for the Madurai Scientific Laboratory Rs.1.20 crore worth new modern DNA research instrument, permission to purchase LC-MS unit (Rs.2.50 crore) to identify narcotic drug particles precisely. The Government is giving priority to prevent crimes against women, enquiry of POCSO criminals, and for the abolition of narcotics drugs.

The Tamil Nadu Fire Service and Rescue Department is accomplishing its task selflessly. The Fire Service and Rescue Department acted

immediately on call and saved 6,275 lives and properties worth Rs. 249.65 crore in the year 2022.

Only if the fire-fighting personnel are looked after properly, can they guard the lives of common people. So far, 1,350 fire protection gears, 450 breathing apparatus, and 3,000 rescue gears with protective gears, all worth Rs. 49.62 crore have been supplied to the Department.

For serving the public efficiently, the role of fire-service stations is important. Seventeen new fire service stations and 4 upgraded fire service stations have been opened at a cost of Rs.62.18 crore. Permission has been granted for purchasing drones, new water lorries, small emergency rescue vehicles, vehicles fitted with aerial ladder, high pressure water-carrying vehicles, which are necessary for firefighting operations, at a cost of Rs. 24.63 crore. Permission has been granted for construction of houses (172) for fire-service personnel in 6 places – Red Hills, Bodinayakanur, Thuraiyur, Ranipet, Sivakasi and Perumbakkam, at a total cost of Rs. 40.63 crore. The Government has been implementing various welfare measures for the benefit of fire service personnel.

The Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition in his speech said that no mention had been made about the total number of vehicular accidents in the State and the number of those who lost their lives. I would like to inform the Opposition Leader that the Demand No 25 – Vehicles Act and Administration on page no 56, it has been clearly mentioned. As far as road safety is concerned, our Government is taking various effective measures. In connection with road safety, a special safety working committee has been functioning, under the chairmanship of the Additional Director General of Police to give suggestions to the State Government for road safety.

For effectively implementing road safety measures, the Government of Tamil Nadu conceived the 'Innuyir Kappom' scheme, which has been successfully executed in the State. Under the scheme, 1,56,000 injured persons have benefited and Rs. 138.13 crore has been spent.

In 2019, the number of casualties in road accidents was 18,129, Due to the Tamil Nadu Government's efforts, it was reduced to 17,884 in the year 2022. Under the Chief Minister's Accident Relief fund, Rs. 120 crore has been allotted for the year 2023-2024. As far as this Government is concerned, unlike the previous Government which gave wrong statistics to the Supreme Court and the Union Government, true information has been given in the Government's policy demand.

Hon'ble Member, Pollachi Thiru. V.Jayaraman, has placed a demand for construction of police quarters, where a vacant site was available. As per his demand, in Pollachi Town, vacant ground is available with survey numbers 1592, 1594, 1597 and 1599. The land belongs to the Police Department,

where it has been planned to construct 8 quarters for inspectors, 20 for Sub-Inspectors and 204 for head Constables at an estimated cost of Rs. 104 crore.

During the discussion on demand for the Police Department, Hon'ble members, Thiru. E.R.Eswaran, Thiru. T.Velmurugan, Thiru. Sinthanai Selvan, Thiru. Nainar Nagendran said that in the year 1996 directly recruited 1,100 sub-inspectors were promoted as Inspectors. Of the promoted, 241 inspectors were yet to be given orders for the post of D.S.P, though they were given the necessary training. The members demanded action in this regard. In the Police Department, for certain posts, the vacancies were filled up as and when the vacancy arose. I assure the members that the promotion would be given to the inspectors in future as and when the vacancy arose.

Hon'ble Opposition Leader said during the A.I.A.D.M.K. rule, 2.5 lakh CCTV cameras were installed in the Chennai Corporation Police limit. But as per the Government Order No 1348, issued during the A.I.A.D.M.K. regime, only 1,45,282 CCTV cameras had been set up with Government funds and private participation. For their maintenance, Rs. 50 lakh has been sanctioned. So it is not true that 2.5 lakh CCTV cameras were installed in the previous regime. This apart, after the D.M.K. came to power, a review of CCTV cameras installed in Corporation limits was made and in the review it was found that there were only 60,997 CCTVs. Of these, only 2,853 cameras were installed with the Government funds and the rest were fitted in private places by the private parties. In some places, the cameras were fitted with the constituency fund of MPs and MLAs. But only after the D.M.K. Government came to power, 22,229 cameras with an annual maintenance contract of Rs.2.5 crore, have been installed.

The Hon'ble Member, Thiru. Sinthanai Selvan placed a demand for inclusion of social justice in the syllabus of training policemen. As far as this is concerned, cyber crimes, action against those who spread rumours through social media, growth with regard to human rights and modern technologies are included in the new syllabus. Only two days back I signed the file in this regard. I would like to inform the Hon'ble Members that orders would be issued in one or two days, so that the newly recruited Sub-Inspectors by the Tamil Nadu Uniformed Service Recruitment Board will be trained under the revised training syllabus and the code of conduct.

Some of the Hon'ble Members mentioned about the release of Muslim prisoners. They also mentioned about the release of life convicts who have been in jail for a long time. This Government released a GO detailing the guidelines for the prior release of long-term prisoners by reducing their sentence.

Following this, a six-member committee, under the chairmanship of retired Madras High

Court Judge, Justice Thiru. N. Authinathan, was formed to give recommendations for the earlier release of life-term prisoners, who have been in jail for 10 years or 20 years and who were not benefited earlier orders, aged prisoners, prisoners afflicted with diseases, prisoners with psychiatric problems and differently-abled prisoners, in consideration of Supreme Court judgments and the existing laws and rules.

So, for honouring the promises made by the D.M.K. in the Election Manifesto, this Government is acting with responsibility. The Justice N.Authinathan committee has given its recommendations. Those recommendations are being studied by the Government Secretaries and law experts. I would like to inform the Hon'ble Members that based on their reports, suitable action would be taken.

The Police Department is acting without any outside interference. Law and order is being maintained properly and stern action is taken against criminals. We have created an atmosphere for investors to come to Tamil Nadu to start new industries. Lot of industries have come up and employment opportunities have increased for the youth.

The Police play an important role in the development of the State, especially after the last 10 years, after the AIAD.M.K. regime, the police in Tamil Nadu are functioning like Scotland Yard Police. The Government has given such freedom to the police. I am not the one who is satisfied with the record performance of the police in the last 2 years.

The State Police are now occupying the primary spot in the country. They should continuously retain the spot. That is the target of the Government. For that the Government will take all steps.

Legislators know the difficult task of the police force. I place this appeal to all Members of the House, including the Opposition. Members should encourage the policemen in their constituencies, who act without any bias and act truly. You should encourage and support them. You should support them in a way that the Tamil Nadu Police continues to remain in the first place. I would like to inform this great house that this Dravidian Model Government will take Tamil Nadu in the path of progress by matching the duties that we should perform for the police to the service they render to society.

The present Assembly session, which began on March 20 is to end today. During these 21 official days, the House saw healthy discussions by the Hon'ble Members by honouring the people's rule. For that I thank all the Members of the house.

During this session also Opposition Members were given more time to speak than the ruling party embers. In that way, I thank all the members, including the Opposition Leader for giving constructive suggestions to the Government

I also thank the Speaker of the House for successfully conducting the house and honouring the dignity of people's rule.

Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes cheques for Rs. 3.30 crore to 660 pre-released prisoners

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** distributed cheques to the tune of Rs. 3.30 crore to 660 pre-released prisoners for starting self-employment.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin on 05.05.2023, at a function organized by the Prisons and Correctional Services Department at Raja Annamalai Puram Hall, in connection with the birth centenary of Perarignar Anna, distributed cheques to the tune of Rs. 3.30 crore to 660 pre-released prisoners for starting self-employment, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Discharged Prisoners Aid Society. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over cheques to 10 persons.

In keeping with the recommendations of the India Prison Committee, the Tamil Nadu Discharged Prisoners Aid Society was formed as an NGO in the year 1921. Its aim is to prevent released prisoners from indulging in crimes again and to enable them live a normal life, by providing them financial assistance for starting self-employment. It is significant to note that only in Tamil Nadu there is a welfare association for released prisoners.

On behalf of Tamil Nadu Discharged Prisoners Aid Society, as part of the celebration of the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, 660 prisoners chosen for pre-release were given cheques to the tune of Rs. 3.30 crore for starting self-employment, purchasing dairy animals, starting tea shop, laundry and canteen. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over cheques to 10 such prisoners, on behalf of the Prison Reforms and Correctional Services Department.

This will enable the 660 pre-released prisoners to start a new life by starting self-employment units and rehabilitate themselves and will prevent them from going back to the criminal activities again.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates new buildings for Panchayat Unions

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on May 10.05.2023 on behalf of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, declared open Integrated Rural Development and Panchayat Raj office buildings, constructed at a total cost of Rs.30.72 crore for the Tiruvarur, Dindigul, Dharmapuri, the Nilgiris, Namakkal, Kanniyakumari and Tiruchirappalli Districts.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister also handed over keys of 200 vehicles, costing Rs. 25.40 crore for the use of chairmen of the Panchayat Unions. As a token of handing over the vehicles, the Hon’ble Chief Minister flagged off 12 vehicles.

For the convenience of the public in meeting Panchayat Union Employees, Panchayat Union Members and Officers, new buildings are being constructed by demolishing the old dilapidated buildings. This scheme was first introduced in the year 2008, when Muthamizharignar Kalaignar was the Chief Minister. Permission was granted for constructing 277 new buildings. So far 205 buildings have been completed.

> The Hon’ble Chief Minister, **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated new buildings, on behalf of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and handed over new vehicles for the use of Chairmen of Panchayat Unions -10.05.2023.

Panchayat Union Office buildings and Integrated Rural Development and Panchayat Raj office buildings complex were declared open by the Hon’ble Chief Minister.

Tiruvarur District – Kodavasal Union, at a cost of Rs. 3.17 crore; Dindigul District - Oddanchatram Union, at a cost of Rs.3.08 crore, Dharmapuri District – Eriyur Union, at a cost of Rs. 3.21 crore and at Kadathur Union,

at a cost of Rs. 3.10 crore, the Nilgiris District – Kothagiri Union, at a cost of Rs. 3.50 crore, Namakkal District – Vennandur Union, at a cost of Rs.2.91 crore and Kanniyakumari District – Munchirai Union, at a cost of Rs. 3.90 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the new office buildings for the above 7 Panchayat Union offices.

These new two-storeyed buildings, built on 17,324 sq.ft. have a Panchayat Union meeting hall, training hall, Room for the Chairman of the Panchayat Union, rooms for the Regional Development employees, separate office wing for engineering staff, Computer room and Stationery store rooms.

In Tiruchirappalli, with a view to integrate District-level offices with separate rooms for various employees, the newly constructed Rural Development and Panchayat Raj office was constructed on a 28,716 sq.ft. area, at a cost of Rs. 7.85 crore and the new building was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Distribution of 200 new vehicles for the use of Panchayat Union Chairmen

For the benefit of Panchayat Union Chairmen, to supervise various works in their respective areas, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar in 2008 sanctioned vehicles. After 13 years, the present Government is reviving the practice of providing vehicles for the Panchayat Union Chairmen, announced the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 22.04.2022 under Rule 110.

As per the announcement, 200 new Scorpio vehicles, worth Rs. 25.40 crore, were handed over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. As a token of handing over the vehicles, the Hon'ble Chief Minister flagged off 12 vehicles.

Congratulations to student for first rank in 12th public examination

News in Picture

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin,** at his Camp Office on 09.05.2023, congratulated Selvi S.Nandini, a student of Annamalaiar Mills Girls Higher Secondary School, Dindigul, who secured the first rank in the State-level 12th Standard Government Examinations. Principal Secretary of School Education Department, Tmt. Kakarla Usha, I.A.S., Director of School Education Thiru. K.Nandakumar, I.A.S., the headmistress of the Annamalaiar HSS and the parents of the students were present on the occasion.

Pharma park coming up in Tindivanam, Tamil Nadu boost to SC and ST Startups

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** laid the foundation stone for a Pharma Park at the SIPCOT complex, Tindivanam -05.05.2023

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin on behalf of the Micro, Small and Medium enterprises Department, laid the foundation for a Pharmaceutical Park of international standards on 111 acres of land at a cost of Rs. 155 crore, at the SIPCOT complex in Tindivanam on 05.05.2023.

On the same occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over an acceptance order to 8 selected companies, for a total investment of Rs. 9.75 crore, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu SC and ST Startup Fund and Rs. 5 lakh each to 25 companies (Rs.1.25 crore), selected under the Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Fund Scheme.

A Government Order for setting up a State-of-Art Pharma Park on an 111-acre site, at a cost of Rs. 155 crore with various modern facilities, has been issued under the Mega Cluster Scheme. Under the scheme, the Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned Rs. 51.56 crore and the Union Government Rs. 20 crore for the common facilitation centre, International-level quality control, zero emission water treatment plant and godown with modern facilities.

In this park, more than 40 pharma companies will be set up, providing direct employment opportunities to 6,000 people and indirect opportunities to 10,000 people.

Tamil Nadu SC and ST Startup Fund

To achieve all-round, inclusive growth of all communities in the new age of

entrepreneurship, the State Government has launched Tamil Nadu SC and ST Startup Finance Scheme and the Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Fund Scheme.

The Tamil Nadu SC and ST Startup Fun is an equity investment and debt fund and was launched with an initial investment of Rs. 30 crore by the State Government in the last financial year. This investment has been increased to Rs. 50 crore in the current financial year. Out of the companies which applied for financial assistance, the panel selected eight Companies in the second phase.

Guhan Industrial and Manufacturing Solutions is in upgraded manufacturing, Shortfundly in the Entertainment Media, Sprint 6 is in building construction, India Speaks in Artificial Intelligence and in the field of medical technology, Destratum Solutions. The SC and ST units selected for the equity investment are: Thalavadi Green Fuel Manufacturing unit, Namshandai-Kotagiri Thalavadi Tribal Pvt. Ltd., and Sholagar Tribal Creations Ltd. These concerns are to be given Rs. 9.75 crore as equity investment. The acceptance orders were handed over to the companies by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Fund

To support the startup companies which are in the incipient stage, the Government of Tamil Nadu is supporting them with seed fund of Rs.10 lakh through the Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Fund (TANSEED). So far 84 startup companies have benefited under the scheme. Now, in the second phase, under TANSEED IV, 25 units based on manufacturing, modern construction, portal protection, and technology for the differently-abled have been selected for financial support. These units have been sanctioned Rs. 5 lakh, totally Rs.1.25 crore and the sanctioning orders were distributed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

News in Pictures

133rd Birth anniversary of Annal Ambedkar

In connection with the 133rd birth anniversary of Annal Ambedkar, which is being observed as the 'Day of Equality', the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** offered rose petals to a portrait of Dr. Ambedkar, placed near his statue on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu at the Ambedkar Memorial in Raja Annamalai Puram, Chennai on 17.04.2023.

172nd Birth anniversary of Velludai Vendhar Sir Pitti Theagarayar

On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Hon'ble Ministers, the Greater Chennai Corporation Mayor, MLAs, the Deputy Mayor and Corporation Council Members paid floral tribute to a portrait of Sir Pitti Theagarayar kept near his statue in the Greater Chennai Corporation Ripon Building, on 27.04.2023, on his 172nd birth anniversary.

Birth anniversary of Freedom Fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, honoured freedom fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai, in connection with his birth anniversary, by sprinkling rose petals on his portrait, kept near his statue in Guindy, Chennai on 17.04.2023.

133rd Birth anniversary of Pavendar Bharathidasan

In connection with the 133rd birth anniversary of Pavendar Bharathidasan, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu Hon'ble Ministers, the Greater Chennai Corporation Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, the Secretary of the Tamil Development and Information Department, the Director of Information and Public Relations Department and high Government officials, paid floral tribute to a portrait of Bharathidasan, kept near his statue at Kamarajar Salai, on the Marina Beach, Chennai on 29.04.2023.

Stretch of Avvai Shanmugam Saalai named after V.P.Raman, former Addl. Solicitor General of India

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation, inaugurated the new name board of the road from the Marina Beach Kamaraj Salai to Indian Bank Headquarters, where the house of former Additional Solicitor General of India, the late V.P.Raman's house is located on Llyods Corner, as V.P.Raman Salai, through video conferencing from the Secretariat on 25.04.2023.

V.P.Raman was the former Additional Solicitor General of India and the Law officer of the Union Government. He was the first South Indian Additional Solicitor General and till his death, he was the Member of the Bar Council of India. He also worked as a Assistant Professor of the Law College. Attracted by the policies of the Arignar Anna, V.P.Raman joined the Dravidian Movement and served in the party. He also worked in the editorial Department and held other top positions in the magazine 'Home Land' of Arignar Anna. He was also held in high esteem by Dr. Kalaignar and other leaders of that era. He was a multi-faceted personally. Apart from education, he had interest in Carnatic Music, English Literature and Cricket.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** renamed a stretch of Avvai Shanmugam Salai, as V.P. Raman Salai and declared open the new name board, from the Secretariat through video conferencing on 25.04.2023.

To honour the memory of the Late V.P.Raman, the Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to rename the Avvai Shanmugham Salai, running from East to West from the Kamaraj Road in the Marina Beach to Indian Bank headquarters as V.P.Raman Salai. The house of late V.P.Raman, known as Lloyds Corner, is located on this Salai. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens 2,828 tenements of Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** declared open 2,828 tenements constructed by the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board - 10.04.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, at the Secretariat on 10.04.2023, through video-conferencing declared open 2,828 tenements, built at a cost of Rs. 284.32 crore, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, under the control of Housing and Urban Development Department. In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, handed over house allotment letters to 330 beneficiaries, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, work orders to 5,430 beneficiaries and ownership records of flats and plots to 518 beneficiaries.

Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board

Under the 'Housing facilities for all' scheme, old tenements were demolished and new flats were constructed in N.V.N. Nagar Scheme area in Chennai, 840 new flats in stilt plus 14 storied multiple complex, at a cost of Rs.104.10 crore under Reconstruction of Houses Scheme;

In Theni District, Appipatti Scheme area, 432 multi-storied flats with ground plus two floors, at a cost of Rs. 41.50 crore and in Bodinayakanur Paramasivan Kovil Scheme area, 168 flats in ground plus two storied building at cost of Rs. 16.35 crore.

In Tiruchi District, Irungalur-2 scheme area, 240 flats in ground plus two floors, at a cost of Rs. 21.16 crore; in Thanjavur District, Koodananal Scheme Area, 240 flats in ground plus two floors, at a cost of 19.21 crore;

In Erode District, Arakkankottai Scheme area, 180 flats, in ground plus two floors, at cost of Rs. 15.16 crore; in Coimbatore District, in Pachinapathi Scheme area, 80 independent houses, at a cost of Rs. 6.88 crore, in Ukkadam scheme IV area, 224 flats in ground plus 3 floors, at a cost of Rs. 19.39 crore; In Vellore District, Thorapadi Scheme area, 160 multi-storied flats in ground plus three floors at a cost of Rs. 17.41 crore; in Ramanathapuram District, Pattinamkathan Scheme Area, 264 flats in ground plus two flats, at a cost of Rs. 23.16 crore.

Totally, 2,828 flats, constructed by the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Corporation, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister from the Secretariat through video conferencing.

Each flat, declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, has 400 sq.ft, with a multi-purpose hall, a bedroom, a kitchen and toilet. All complexes have sewerage drains and rain water harvesting facilities. Under the 'Our Flat, our Responsibility' scheme steps are being taken for starting resident owners associations.

Since the takeover of the Government, 12,495 flats have been constructed, at a total cost of Rs.1225.26 crore for the poor and the marginalized people in slum areas.

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Corporation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over flat allotment letters to 330 beneficiaries and as a token he handed over the allotment letters to 2 beneficiaries; Rs.2.1 lakh each, totally Rs.114.03 crore to 5,430 beneficiaries, under the construction of quality houses scheme in various Districts and as a token he handed over the work order to 2 beneficiaries; and possession documents of flats to 350 and plot possession documents to 168 plot owners, totally 518 beneficiaries and as a token, he handed over the documents to 4 beneficiaries.

■

Foundation stone laid for Memorials for Dr.P.Subbarayan, Thiyagi Erode Eswaran

Hon’ble Chief Minister unveils statues of freedom fighter, social reformers

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** unveiled the statues of great freedom fighters and laid the foundation stone for the Memorial buildings - 10.05.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Tamil Development and Information and Public Relations Department, declared open the statue of V.O.Chidambaram at the V.O.C. Park in Coimbatore, Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Statue at Mayiladuthurai and Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy statue at Pudukkottai, all set up at a total cost of Rs. 66 lakh, through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 10.05.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for memorial buildings with statues for the former Chief Minister Dr.P. Subbarayan, at Namakkal District and for freedom fighter, Erode Eswaran at Erode, at a total cost of Rs. 5.10 crore.

The Tamil Nadu Information and Public Relations Department constructs and maintains various memorials, statues, commemoration pillars and monuments, to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions made by the stalwarts who shaped Tamil Nadu and contributed for the development of the country.

In this way, the Hon’ble Chief Minister announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 03.09.2021, in connection with the 150th Birth Anniversary of freedom fighter V.O.Chidambaranar, that a full-size statue of the freedom fighter would be installed at Coimbatore prison, where he spent the most of his significant days. Similarly, during the 2021-2022 budget demand of the Information and Public Relations Department, it was announced that a statue of Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar, a social reformer and writer who spearheaded the Anti-Devadasi

Movement would be installed in Mayiladuthurai, and another statue of the India's first woman assembly member and social reformer, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ammaiyar would be installed at Pudukkottai.

As per the announcement, the statue of Kappalottiya Tamizhan V.O.Chidambaranar at V.O.C. Park in Coimbatore, at a cost of Rs.40 lakh, and that of Ramamirtham Ammaiyar at Varadachariar Park in Mayiladuthurai at a cost of Rs. 16 lakh and the statue of Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Ammaiyar at the Pudukkottai Government Medical College Hospital at a cost of Rs. 10 lakh were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister from the Secretariat through video conferencing.

In the budget demand for the Information and Public Relations Department for the Year 2021-2022, it was announced that a memorial with a statue for freedom fighter Erode Eswaran, former MLA who suffered jail term during the freedom struggle and was instrumental for the East Bhavani Irrigation Scheme would be set up in Erode. Another memorial for Dr. Subbarayan, who worked for the welfare of Tamils and Tamil Nadu and was the Chief Minister of the Madras Presidency in Namakkal Town.

As per the announcement, the foundation stone for a memorial with statue for freedom fighter Eswaran, at a cost of Rs. 2.60 crore at Mudukkanthurai in Bhavanisagar and for the former Chief Minister of the Madras Presidency Dr.Subbarayan, at Navanithottakurpatti in Puthuchathiram in Namakkal District at a cost of Rs.2.50 crore, were laid by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

News in Picture

Review of 6-lane road work

The Chief Secretary to Government Dr. V. Irai Anbu I.A.S., on 16.04.2023, reviewed the work of widening the 4-lane road from Chennai Thiruvanmiyur to Akkarai into a 6-lane road for a length of 10.50 km, at a cost of Rs.1,111crore, including the acquisition of land. The Chief Secretary directed the officials to speed up the process of land acquisition and construction.

Hon’ble Chief Minister pats Hon’ble Sports Minister for great upsurge in sports development

Speech delivered by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at a function organized by the Department of Youth Welfare and Sports Development - 08.05.2023.

Like everyone in Tamil Nadu, I am also a very big fan of M.S.Dhoni. Recently, I went to Chepauk twice to see Dhoni’s batting. I hope our adopted son of Tamil Nadu will continue to play for Chennai Super Kings. Coming from a humble background, Dhoni became a national icon with his hard work. He is an inspiration for millions of Indian youth. That is why he is here today as the ambassador of this present initiative. We want to create many more Dhonis from our Tamil Nadu, not just in cricket, but in all sports.

I am really happy to inaugurate the Tamil Nadu Champions Trust. The growth of sports in the last two years in the State has been phenomenal. The Sports Department, under the leadership of Hon’ble Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, has seen a great upsurge. Like you, I am also confident that the Minister will create a renaissance in the Department.

Everyday some work or the other keeps going on in the Department. Our Hon’ble Minister Udhayanidhi does not underestimate the Sports Department; he functions as its captain and is

transforming all sports persons into champions. For this, I thank and congratulate the Minister and the higher officials of the Department.

Tamil Nadu hosted the 44th World Chess Olympiad to great success, within a short period and received international appreciation. In continuation of that, the Government of Tamil Nadu has been conceiving various special plans to make Tamil Nadu the number one State in the country in sporting activities.

To encourage sports persons who make the country and the State proud by winning medals at the national and the international levels are given high cash incentives. Special cash assistance was given to those who won medals in Karate, Squash, Rifle Shooting and Sword fighting in the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is encouraging all the varieties of sports in the State. Between June 2021 and March 2023, 1,594 sportspersons who won in international and national sports events, were given Rs. 43.19 crore as incentives.

Sports, as it turns out, is not the talent that is limited to one person. It is an excellent sphere for utilizing the combined strength of society and nurturing the best in an individual. That is why the State Government is giving more importance to it. That is why the Government considers it its duty to improve the skill development, education, health, physical fitness, leadership qualities and economic development of sportspersons.

The Government is helping schools and the community to invest in various schemes of the Sports Department. The foremost among these is the Chief Minister's Sports Cup.

Under the name of Chief Minister's Cup, 15 types of tournaments are held for schools and college students, members of the general public, differently-abled persons and Government employees.

Many announcements have been made in the current year's budget demand for the Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department, to make Tamil Nadu stand tall in

the arena of sports. You would know about the announcements.

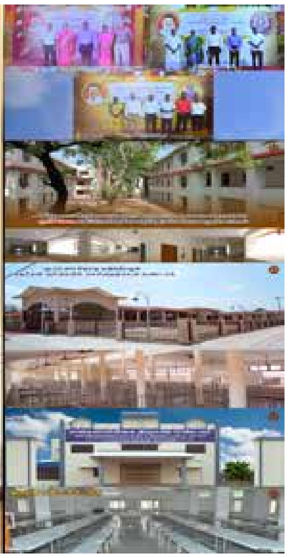
The Hon'ble Minister has been functioning with the aim of hosting international events like the World Squash Cup, Asian Hockey Men's Championship and ATP Chennai Open Tour.

In line with such aims is the announcement of formation of the Trust, 'Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation', for the development of sports in the State with the co-operation of the general public and of Corporate houses. The Foundation will be a forerunner for giving a fresh lease of life to sports in the State with the co-operation of the public and corporate entities. The CSR funds of Corporate houses can be utilized for the Trust. Through this, the sports infrastructure of the State can be improved and the needs of sports persons met.

There is Private participation in education and health. In a similar manner, the Foundation would try to bring in private participation in the sports field. The Minister Udhayanidhi mentioned that as the Chief Minister, I donated Rs. 5 lakh to the 'Namma School Foundation', when it was launched. He hoped that in a similar manner I would donate for this foundation also. His expectation will be met. For this Foundation also, I am donating Rs. 5 lakh from my personal fund. The funds of this foundation should be used properly. It should not be utilized only for some sports and for certain sports persons only.

Through this Fund, all kinds of sports, all sportspersons and all Districts should be equally benefited. This Foundation which has been started with a lofty purpose should work scrupulously to achieve that aim.

I take leave of you wishing the Department greater success…May it triumph in creating more sports persons..and may they win trophies not only at the national level but also at the international level.

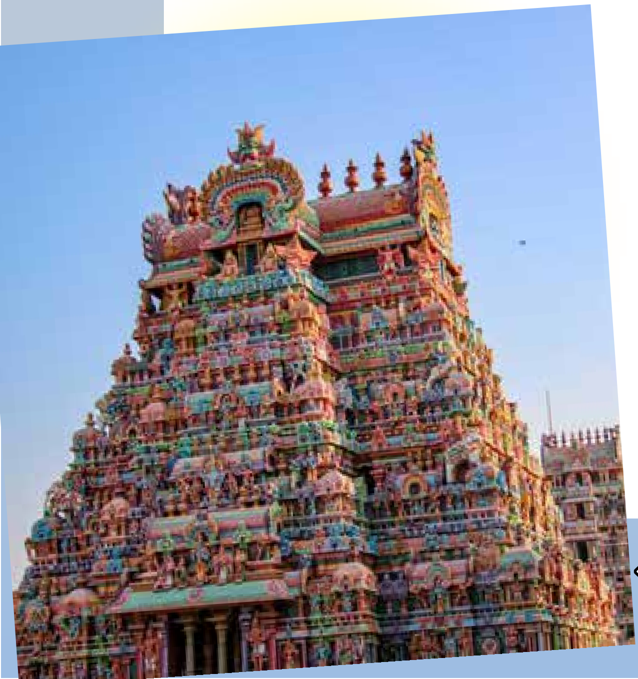


Hon'ble Chief Minister opens additional building at HR and CE Commissioner's office complex

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin,** declared open an additional building on behalf of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department on 10.05.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, declared open an additional building for the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Commissioner's Office Complex at Nungambakkam in Chennai, a queue complex facility at the Arulmigu Samayapuram Mariamman Temple at Samayapuram in Tiruchirappalli and a kalyana mandap at the Arulmigu Kirupapuriswarar Temple in Thiruvennainallur in Viluppuram District, through video conferencing from the Secretariat on 10.05.2023.

Of the temples under its administrative control, the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, is conducting in 674 temples, works like kumbhabhishekam, renovation of age-old temples, improving famous temples with major schemes, improving the facilities for the devotees at the temples, retrieving properties worth Rs. 4,300 crore belonging to the temples. Besides, many announcements made



in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly for the welfare and management of the temples have been implemented.

As a part of these measures, in the 2021-2022 annual budget demand for the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, it was announced that an additional building with modern facilities, at a total cost of Rs. 15 crore, would be constructed. As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the construction work of the additional building, at a cost of Rs. 15 crore, at the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Complex on 25.04.2022.

Never in the history of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, construction work has been completed six months in advance at a cost of Rs. 15 crore and the additional building was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. This new building complex has three floors on a 33,202 square feet area. In this new building, there are rooms for Special Officers in the rank of District Revenue Officer, Chief Engineer's room, separate rooms for Joint Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners, Renovation wing, engineering wing, canteen and vehicles parking stand.

The new queue complex at the Samayapuram Temple in Tiruchirappalli District was constructed at a cost of Rs. 13.80 crore. It has 4 entry mandapams, 4 emergency exits, waiting hall for devotees, protected drinking water facility, rest rooms, shops for temple puja articles, medical centre, ticket counters, prasadam selling complex, granite seats for waiting devotees, S.S. Barricades, coloured lights and fans. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open a kalyana mandapam at the Arulmigu Kripapuriswarar Temple, at Thiruvennainallur. The kalyana mandapam, built at a cost of Rs. 1.63 crore has all modern facilities. ■

News in Picture

Swearing in of Minister for Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce

The Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. R.N.Ravi,** in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** administered the oath of office and secrecy to Dr.T.R.B. Rajaa, as the Minister for Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce, at Raj Bhavan on 11.05.2023.

Plethora of steps for Adi Dravidars and Tribals

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K.Stalin** at the high-level review and monitoring committee meeting of Adi Dravidars and Tribal Welfare, headed by him at the Secretariat on 11.04.2023.

At the outset, I extend my warm evening welcome to all of you.

The present Government in the State is functioning under the Dravidian Model, where everything is for everyone. All round growth, inclusive of all, is the aim of the Government, its principle and its path. In this way, the Government has been implementing various welfare schemes for improving the lifestyle of SC and ST people. I would like to list out some of the schemes here.

April 14, the birth anniversary of Annal Ambedkar, is being celebrated every year as 'Samathuva Day'.

Solatium for the SC and ST people, affected by atrocities, has been increased from a minimum of Rs.85,000 to Rs. One lakh and from the maximum of Rs. 8.25 lakh to Rs. 12 lakh. In the last financial year, solatium of Rs. 47 crore has been given to 3,870 affected people.

The families of 723 people, affected by atrocities, were provided assistance like employment on compassionate grounds, educational incentives and house site pattas.

A Government Order has been issued to impart awareness to the police and revenue officials, to enable them to look at the issues of SC and ST people from the social angle. The awareness programme is to be conducted by the Anna Staff College of Management.

At present, 22 special courts are functioning in the State to expedite the cases relating to issue of solatium, atrocities against the SC and ST people and their rehabilitation. Steps are being taken to set up additional special courts in Salem, Krishnagiri, Madurai and Tirunelveli. Already, the additional court has been functioning in Salem.

Model villages are selected, where there is caste-free burial ground without any discrimination and are given Rs. 10 lakh as incentive for the developmental works in the model village. In the last financial year, 70 model villages have benefited under the scheme.

Villages where there is communal amity, have been selected and they are given Rs.10 lakh incentive for carrying out basic facilities. 37 villages have benefited last year under the scheme.

To create awareness against untouchability, every year 'Humanism Week' is observed from January 24 to January 30.

Rs. 2,206.70 crore have been allotted for education-based schemes for the Adi Dravidar people.

For upgrading the basic infrastructure in the residential schools of Scheduled Tribes, Rs. 120 crore has been allotted last year.

Rs.25 crore has been sanctioned for maintenance work of 366 hostels, run by the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department.

After the takeover of the present Government, under the revised doctorate study scholarship scheme, 2,954 students have been given Rs. One lakh each.

The salary ceiling for students who go overseas for higher studies has been increased to Rs. 8 lakh per annum and under the revised procedure, 18 students received Rs. 3.66 crore as scholarships.

The salary ceiling limit for loans received under TAHDCO for economic development has been increased to Rs. 3 lakh.

In the last financial year 20,544 individuals and 296 self-help groups have benefited through the TAHDCO Loans. In the current year, an action plan is to be implemented for providing loans to the tune of Rs. 285.02 crore to 68,225 people.

For the Irulars living in 16 villages in Ariyalur District, a special fund of 86.13 lakh has been given for cashew collection in 967 acres. Through this, 2,000 people of 500 Irular families, who were earlier daily wagers, have been upgraded as small entrepreneurs.

To improve the lifestyle of tribal people in Erode and the Nilgiris Districts, Rs. 1.36 crore-manufacturing unit has been set up for making Unnikuchi furniture.

In the current financial year, a new scheme, at a cost of Rs.100 crore by name Annal Ambedkar Entrepreneurship Scheme, has been launched to encourage the economic development of Adi Dravidars and Tribal Entrepreneurs.

To improve the basic amenities of SC colonies in urban and rural areas and to establish socio economic development in those colonies, Ayothidasar Housing development scheme will

be implemented for a period spanning 5 years at a cost of Rs. 1,000 crore.

For providing link roads, street lights, solar lamps and drinking water facilities in Tribal colonies, last year under a special scheme, Rs.135 crore was allotted and the works are under progress. For Irulars who don't have houses, 4,324 houses have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 420 crore.

For improving the lifestyle of Tribals, under the Comprehensive Tribal Development Programme (CTDP) infrastructure facilities will be improved this year at a cost of Rs. 94.99 crore.

Under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act 2006, 10,410 individual rights and 528 community rights have been ensured so far.

The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been functioning in the State to protect the legal rights of SCs and STs and to settle their major issues.

Three committees are functioning under the chairmanship of Secretary/Additional Secretaries of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department to verify the genuineness of caste certificates issued to tribal communities.

Puthirai Vannar Welfare Board has been rejuvenated and Rs.10 crore additional fund has been sanctioned for undertaking livelihood improvement activities.

Under Adi Dravidar Sub Plan known earlier as Components Plan, in this current financial year, of the state-level allotment of Rs.77,390 crore, Rs.17,075 crore has been allotted for Adi Dravidar sub plan and Rs.1,595 crore for Tribal welfare sub plan.

There has been a long-pending demand for ensuring a separate law to oversee whether the Adi Dravidar and Tribal sub plan is properly implemented. Steps are being taken to introduce a draft plan of the Act after proper consultation in the coming Assembly session.

- Imparting education,
- creating employment,
- inducting into powerful posts,
- reservation,
- economic assistance and patta and house distribution...

All these activities are properly done. I don't think that the duties of the Government end there. To establish a self respecting egalitarian society, we have still to travel a long distance.

Through the allotment of funds, long-term perspectives and supervision, we could achieve development. But social growth and thinking capacity improvement are not like that. It should be created in the hearts of people. There should be a change in the attitude of people. It is a fact that it will not happen so easily.

Dirt that has gathered over thousands of years cannot be removed in just 10 years.

At the same time, I appeal to you that our awareness march should continue without any lag. With these words, I complete my presidential address.

Nandri,Vanakkam! ■

Memorial for Elayaperumal, tireless fighter for the rights of Scheduled Caste people

Announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110- 18.04.2023.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

It is my duty to make the following statement in this August House, under Rule 110, in connection with the centenary of elder statesman Elayaperumal, who was a torch bearer of the Oppressed people and also a symbol of value-based politics.

On the lines of social reformers, Ayothidasa Pandithar, Irattaimalai Srinivasan, M.C.Raja, N.Sivaraj, L.C.Gurusami, and Swami Sahajanandar, the elder statesman Elayaperumal fought for the rights of the oppressed people. He was born in Chidambaram where Nandanar was prohibited entry and opened the gates of rights for the scheduled class people. Even during his school days, he broke the double pots in his school. By his sustained actions he saw to it that the 'Double Pot System' in the area was withdrawn. He joined the Army where also discrimination was observed. He immediately complained to higher officials and the discrimination was removed. Within a year, he was discharged from the Army and started working for the people.

Elder Elayaperumal was the architect of many major agitations in the combined South Arcot and Thanjavur Districts. He was responsible for creating awareness among the Scheduled Caste people. He joined the Congress Party and got an opportunity to contest in the first general election in Independent India and won in that election. At that time, he was only 27 years old. At Delhi, Elayaperumal met Annal Ambedkar, who asked him, "You have become a Member of Parliament at this young age. What have you done for the people?"

When Elayaperumal listed the peoples' agitations he had conducted in South Arcot and Thanjavur Districts against untouchability, Annal Ambedkar himself was astonished and congratulated him.

He was the representative of the Egmore Assembly Constituency from 1980 to 1984, 3 times MP, president of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee, and member of the All-India Committee for Eradication of Untouchability.

One of the significant posts occupied by him was the chairman of the All-India Council, formed for the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes, formed in 1965. For 3 years, he toured the entire country and reviewed the caste infrastructure and atrocities of untouchability. His report exposed the roots of the Indian caste system. There were attempts to prevent him from submitting the report in Parliament. On the submission date of the report in Parliament, he was attacked in his room. But he managed to escape and submitted the report. As he was aware of the attack in advance, he had handed the copy of the report to the D.M.K. MP, Era Chezhiyan and through him submitted the report in Parliament. That is how the report was submitted in Parliament. That report was the basic foundation for the Prevention of Atrocities Act, which was brought in later.

When Dr.Kalaignar in 1971, brought an Act to make all community people as Archakas in Temples, some people went to the Supreme Court. The then D.M.K. Government in its affidavit in the Supreme Court said the Act was brought, based on the Elayaperumal Committee report. The Supreme Court justified the Act stating that it was based on the Elayaperumal Report that all community people can become Archakas.

When Elayaperumal organized the Social Justice conference in Chennai, on behalf of the India People's Rights Party, he invited Dr.Kalaignar as a special speaker. Dr.Kalaignar congratulated Elayaperumal and had a special regard for Elayaperumal as he hailed from Chidambaram, the native town of his first wife, Padma. Both Dr.Kalaignar and Elayaperumal were born in the year 1924 and in June. Dr.Kalaignar was born on June 3 and Elayaperumal on June 26. This is the great similarity between the two.

The present Dravidian Model Government in the State considers it as its duty to honour such a social reformer who toiled to work against social discrimination, for communal amity and the legal rights of oppressed people. He was for evolving a socialist society based on self respect. In memory of his services, I am happy to announce that a Centenary Memorial will be set up in his native town, Chidambaram, in Cuddalore District.

To prevent caste discrimination, the roots of the caste system should be cut off and the grip of caste should be removed. Walking in the path of Elder Elayaperumal, let us set up a society on the basis of equality.

Tamil Nadu Assembly Resolution seeks SC benefits for converts to Christianity

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on the Resolution insisting the Union Government to amend the Indian Constitution - 19.04.2023

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

I would like to bring a resolution in this House to extend all benefits, including reservation now accorded to Scheduled Castes, under the Constitution, to those Scheduled Castes who converted to Christianity.

Even after converting to other religions, the converted Scheduled Caste people continue to undergo the trauma of untouchability, including caste atrocities. We have to look at those atrocities with a kind heart. As per the Indian Constitution, Scheduled Caste people, belonging to Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism alone are eligible for concessions and reservation benefits, under the Constitution. Historically, the converted SCs are Scheduled Caste people and so it is proper to extend the benefits enjoyed by their fellow Scheduled Caste people to them also. Through that only, they could get opportunity in education and employment, thereby, they would be socially uplifted. Our stand is that it is not proper to deny concessions to converted Christians, just because they are converted to another religion.

People have the right to follow the religions they like. But the Caste is not subjected to change. These types of castes instead of

differentiating people from one and another, are indulging one-upmanship, which is a social evil. Caste is not horizontal but vertical. The principle of Social Justice is to uplift people suppressed on the basis of castes, by offering them concessions. This type of social justice should be extended in all fields. This is the aim of the Dravidian Government.

In this way, the proper stand is that the converted Scheduled Caste Christians should be given social justice rights. When Dr. Kalaignar was the Chief Minister of the State he wrote letters in 1996, 2006, 2010 and 2022, urging the then Prime Minister to concede the demand. In this House, in the Governor's address on 06.01.2011, the same demand was made to the Union Government. This demand was included in the election manifesto of the D.M.K. party in the last Assembly Election.

As far as the Government of Tamil Nadu is concerned, it has been extending concessions to converted SC Christians, on par with other Scheduled Caste people through various GOs. Apart from the reservations, all other reservations given to the SC people by the Union Government are given to the Converted SC Christians also. Scholarships given to students of full time doctorate degree are now given to converted SC students. Similarly, overseas scholarships are also given to converted SCs. Along with these, it is proper to extend reservations also.

According to the Constitution (Scheduled Caste) Order, 1950, no person who professes a religion different from the Hindu, Sikh or Buddhist Religion shall be deemed to be a member of Scheduled Caste. In 1956, the order was amended to include those who profess Sikhism and Buddhism as SCs. The Converted SC Christians are expecting similar treatment. This demand was placed before the Union Government from various quarters.

Those belonging to the Adi Dravidar community who convert to other religions, automatically cease to belong to SCs and if they possess a certificate as belonging to SCs, it would be invalid, the Vice- president of the National Commission for the Adi Dravidars had said last year. As there is a strong opposition to this order, the Union Government formed a commission headed by the retired Chief Justice K.G.Balakrishnan. I appeal to this Commission to elicit the opinion of all people across the country before finalizing the report.

With a view to stress this demand I propose the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: "This House unanimously requests the Union Government to amend the Indian Constitution to extend the reservations and other concessions, now enjoyed by the Scheduled Caste people legally under the Constitution to those Scheduled Castes who converted to Christianity". I propose this resolution.

I appeal to members to adopt the resolution unanimously, which is based on social justice and equality.

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces statue for V.P.Singh, champion of the Backward classes

Announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 on 20.04.2023.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

With the permission of the Members of the House, I would like to make an announcement under Rule 110 of the House. The Government wishes to suitably honour the former Prime Minister of the country, Thiru.V.P.Singh, who is known as the Patriarch of the Backward Classes of the country.

Thiru. Viswanath Pratap Singh, popularly known as V.P.Singh was the son of Raja Daiya Bhagavathi Prathap Singh, a Zamindar in Allahabad District in Uttar Pradesh State. Though V.P. Singh had an opportunity to lead a princely life, he did not show interest in it. During his college days, he involved himself in the Gandhian movement. He joined the Sarvodaya movement and donated his lands to the movement. He won the 1969 elections to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly. He held the post of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister. He also occupied the posts of the Union Commerce Minister, Foreign Affairs Minister, Finance Minister and the Defence Minister.

He formed the National Front at the national level in 1989 and became the Prime Minister of the country in 1989. Though he was the Prime Minister of the country only for 11 months, he had many achievements during his career which are such that we are speaking about them in this House even now.

When the Constitution of India was framed, provision for separate reservation was made for the Scheduled Caste people in education and employment in the Union Government posts. But, no reservation was provided to Backward Class people on the basis of their population. To consider the demand for reservation for the Backward Class people, the Second Backward

Classes Commission was formed under the chairmanship of B.P.Mandal. The Mandal Commission, in its recommendation, suggested 27 per cent reservation to the Backward Class community, which was socially and educationally backward. The V.P.Singh Government, by accepting the Commission's recommendations, announced 27 per cent reservation for the BC communities.

V.P. Singh did not belong to the Backward Class community nor was he born in a poor family. But he did this for the backward classes. When Thiru.V.P.Singh announced in the Cabinet meeting that he would implement the Mandal Committee recommendation, one of his colleagues, who belonged to the forward community, challenged him that it cannot be done by an 'upper caste' Prime Minister. Immediately, Thiru. V.P. Singh announced the date of implementation. This brought trouble to V.P.Singh's Prime Minister post.

Sometimes it is better to choose death instead of living for some more time. So said V.P.Singh, the glowing flame of self respect, and resigned from the Prime Minister's post. "You can hang me if you want. But concede 27 per cent reservation for the Backward Class people and do justice to them", he said. Such was his interest in the welfare of the backward classes.

During his 11 months tenure as Prime Minister, V.P. Singh initiated reservation for the OBCs and the basic moves for the Right to Information. He made Right to Employment a Constitutional guarantee, undertook poll reforms, established the Inter-State Council, National Protection Council, 3 councils for settling the issues concerning farmers and made printing of MRP rates compulsory in products. These are some of his achievements. V.P.Singh considered the people of Tamil Nadu as his blood relatives. He considered Thanthai Periyar as his mentor. For a real man disgrace is more humiliating than death and Periyar's self respect is the best medicine to remove that disgrace. He considered Dr.Kalaignar as his own brother. "Whenever I was in trouble, it was Kalaignar, who consoled and encouraged me", he said. He congratulated Dr.Kalaignar as one who was least bothered about power and was with him on principle.

Dr. Kalaignar in his speech in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 21.08.1990 expressed his congratulations and appreciation to V.P.Singh for implementing 27 per cent reservation exclusively for the BC people of the country. Dr.Kalaignar said in the history of the country, V.P.Singh started a new era by taking the revolutionary decision of providing social justice to the OBC people by providing separate reservation for them.

The National Front was inaugurated in Chennai in 1988. At that time, I headed a huge rally and V.P.Singh signalled to the participants of the rally who were wearing white dress, by waving his hands. Later, we went to meet him in Delhi after he had become Prime Minister. I too accompanied the group of legislators to greet him. When

I was introduced to V.P.Singh, he said I know him (Stalin) well as he led the youth rally in Chennai and congratulated me. I consider this as the biggest compliment to me in my life. With the enthusiasm and encouragement given by the Social Justice hero V.P.Singh, the present Government is travelling in the path of Social Justice without any compromise or vacillation. I don't want to explain in greater detail about the steps taken by the D.M.K., both in the High Court and Supreme Court in getting 27 per cent in the All-India quota of medical seats.

It is the D.M.K. and its alliance parties, which forced the Union Government, which was averse to it, to accept the reservation for the BC communities by launching various agitations. With this in mind, we are making attempts to form a Social Justice federation at the all-India level. The first step has been taken through video conferencing. Major political parties of the country participated in the conference. They all wanted Tamil Nadu to take the lead in this move. This Government works not only for the people of Tamil Nadu but for the entire country. When it was announced that the examination for CRPF selection would be conducted only in English and Hindi, I wrote a letter to the Union Minister for Human Resources, urging the Union Government to conduct the examinations in all languages. In the meanwhile, youths from all over the State and the youth wing of the D.M.K. announced a big agitation. Now, we have received the information that all Central Services Examinations, including the CRPF examination, will be conducted in all 13 languages, including Tamil.

This Government is for implementing social justice in all fields. None should forget that the strength to say this was given by V.P. Singh. In the Cauvery issue, which is the life line of the Tamil people, it was V.P.Singh who was instrumental in forming the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. When he convened a meeting of all-India leaders and Chief Ministers in his house to discuss the Sri Lankan Tamil Issues, V.P.Singh said that his view was what Dr.Kalaignar was going to express.

V.P.Singh announced at a public meeting on the Marina, that the domestic terminal of the Chennai Airport would be named after Kamaraj and the international terminal after Arignar Anna at the request of Dr. Kalaignar. To honour V.P.Singh for honouring Kamaraj and Anna, I am happy to inform the House that a life-size statue of V.P.Singh will be installed in Chennai to demonstrate Tamil society's respect for him.

Though born in an upper class family, he thought about the oppressed people and did not compromise on principles whatever be the high posts he held. Even when his health was poor and he had to undergo dialysis, he fought for the poor people by coming to the street. I take my seat declaring, 'Long live the fame and glory of V.P.Singh'.

Hon'ble Chief Minister exhorts youth to imbibe the spirit of Tamil culture

At the outset my warm welcome to all of you. I am really happy to meet you all in this hall, which has been named after our mentor, Arignar Anna, who is resting on the shores of the Bay of Bengal, under the protection of his 'brother' Kalaignar.

Perarignar Anna, affectionately called his party cadres as 'Brothers' and embraced them. The word Anna is the single word that united lakhs of youths and Tamil kin. Muthamizharignar on his part selected the word 'Dear brothers' to appeal to his cadres.

The words, 'Anna', 'Thambi', and 'Udanpirappae' ' reveal the family relations. This family bond resulted in the awakening of the Tamil society.

People used to say that the speeches of Perarignar Anna are equivalent to 'evening colleges'.

Perarignar Anna was known to be the one who studied most of the books in the Connemara Library. He was able to present the knowledge of all the books he studied in his own style.

Perarignar Anna always liked to interact with the youth and that too in colleges and universities. All his speeches always centered around some topics.

Sometimes, the topics, he had to talk upon were not revealed to him, till he held the mike. He was given the topics name in the last minute.

In 1961 at a function in the Christian College, he asked the organizers, the name of the topic. When the student leader informed him that there was no specific topic for him, then Arignar Anna spoke on ‘no topic’. In that speech, he said that Tamil Nadu had found a place in Chennai politics but not in the Indian Constitution. The topic Chennai Presidency was given to him without giving the topics name.

In the speech, Anna said that ‘If a state was to get a title, then it was not enough to have minimum powers’. It should have complete powers. According to political grammar, all powers should be vested with the people. Tamil Nadu is yet to get complete power. So there is no title for Tamil Nadu and he spoke that Tamil Nadu is without a title in that meeting. This speech was made in the year 1961 and in 1967, the D.M.K. came to power and immediately after coming to power, he named our native land after Tamil Nadu. That is why he was known as the eldest son of Tamil Nadu not only for his cadres but for the entire State.

Anna’s speeches are enlightening and objective. I would like to mention some of topics, Anna spoke during his days:

- Ilatchiyam Valartha Varalaru,
- Malarum Maanavar,
- Poarvaal,
- Suthanthira Indhiyaavil Vaalibar Thevai,

- Ennai Kavarndha Puthagankal,
- Veettirkoar Puthaga Saalai,
- Medai Pechchu,
- Ye Thaazhndha Tamilagame and
- Aatrorum.

His English and Tamil speeches are our guiding repository of knowledge. When someone questioned him whether it would be possible for him to speak in an alliterative style in English as he did it in Tamil, Anna immediately said, ‘No sentence ends with because, because, because is a conjunction’. The number of speeches made by Anna in Tamil was 12,775. And his English speeches were more than 400. Anna was more interested in interacting with the common public and the younger generation. He had immense confidence in the younger generation. He was of the firm belief that his dreams would be fulfilled only by the younger generation. He considered their dreams as his dreams

On such an occasion, in the name of the ‘Great Tamil Dream’, a culture dissemination event has been started by the Government of Tamil Nadu. When this idea was suggested to me by the Government Secretary Thiru. Udhayachandran, I asked him what was the principle aim of the propaganda. He said this would inculcate the tradition and culture of Tamil to students. I accepted his suggestion and also placed a demand that the propaganda meetings should be non-partisan. I had instructed them that my name and picture should not be found in such meetings. They faithfully followed my instructions.

The organizers of the function did not invite me while launching the propaganda but invited me for the 100th edition. Even this was for good. I had an opportunity to oversee whether all the earlier functions were conducted properly. During these 100 functions, more than 200 lectures have been given. Totally more than one lakh students, belonging to1,000 colleges have participated. For more than one lakh students, Tamil tradition and culture have been taught.

I extend my congratulations to writers, orators, media persons, scholars, social workers, MLAs, MPs, those belonging to the Art Department, entrepreneurs and Government officials, who participated in these functions.

I extend my congratulations to all of you for carrying forward the dream of Tamil Nadu; you have done a great historic duty.

You might be thinking that the speech or lecture might be a one-day affair. But the fact that it has gone into the memory of many people will be known fully only in the future. Such lectures would have sharpened their thinking. In that respect, you were not mere speakers or orators. I want to call you their teachers. I congratulate the Tamil Virtual

Academy for co-ordinating all the functions within a short duration. ‘Your work did not end there. Only through continued propaganda can we plant good ideas in the minds of the youth. Dr.Kalaignar used to say that we should repeatedly spell out our opinions to the same person. In this manner, we should go on implementing our ideas. Only then can we create youths of the Perarignar-Anna age.

‘I belong to Dravidian race. I feel happy to claim myself as a Dravidian. By saying this, I am not against Bengalis or Maharashtrians. Anna said that when I call myself a Dravidian, it means that Dravidam has something different from others to tell the world. Anna mentioned all these things when he spoke about why the name Tamil Nadu should be given to our mother land.

The youth of the land should know about the glory of Tamils, about Tamil Nadu’s culture and its history fully. Only with this motive, the brothers of Anna, like me, have brought together the Tamil Dream programme. A few days back, in the same venue, I released the book, ‘The Journey of an Art’, written by the retired I.A.S. Officer Thiru. R.Balakrishnan. It is not a normal book but a treasury of Tamil culture.

It is a complete research work on the Indus Valley Civilization. Even today, I feel proud to have got an opportunity to release that book.

The Indus Valley Civilization is over 5,000 years old now. Who were the people

who lived there? In which language did they speak. Thiru. Balakrishnan has given answers to these questions after much research. He has proved that the language used by the people was Tamil and they were the ancestors of Tamils belonging to Sangam period.

Thiru. Balakrishnan has proved that the people in that region spoke the Tamil language. And they were the ancestors of the Sangam literature period. Even 5,000 years back, the Tamil race lived with cultural ethics. He had also proved that even today some of the Tamil words like Korkai, Vanji, Thondi, Oor, Patti, Palli, Cauvery, Pandiyan, Kumaran, Madurai, Vanni and Vel are found in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Pakistan and Afghanistan mentioned in the of Indus Civilization.

This is the cultural glory of the Tamils and you should all know this. You should not think that I am studying Mechanical Engineering and Physics and why should I know about Tamil culture. We all belong to the Tamil race and we should know about the history of our race. We should know about the speciality of our language, about the leaders who worked for us and about the wealth of Tamil. Only if a person knows from where and why he started his journey, can he reach his destination. If he forgets the destination then he will lose his way.'

This is the march of a race. The march of the Tamil race. Our history should remind us of our destination even after many generations.

This is the reason for organizing the Tamil Dream. In the meeting hall and the dais, there are portraits of Valluvar as it is Valluvar who conceived of the Tamil Dream.

Valluvar's dream is that all living things are equal (Pirapokkum ella uyirkkum) . That is social justice. To implement social justice at all levels, we have to work tirelessly.

You can see Thiruvalluvar in Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Dr.Kalaignar. The Dravidian movement functions only to implement the socialism of Valluvar.

According to Tamil culture, there are no differences among people on the basis of birth. According to Tamil ethos, there are only two castes. The higher caste is one which helps other people and the lower caste people are those who refuse to help others. Tamil morality is the view that you would destroy yourself if you indulge in caste, communal, and 'sastra' fights. The life of Tamils during Sangam period was based on ethics. In the intervening period, 'Sanathana Dharma' entered and planted economic disparity and caste differences among people. Even now the fight against Sanathana Dharma, which started hundreds of years ago, is going on.

The history of social revolutionary leaders from the beginning of Thiruvalluvar and Vallalar to 20th century leaders Thanthai Periyar should be known to the present generation. You should know how we have

developed now from the previous position. We were denied entry in temples, not allowed to walk on roads, not allowed to have education and not to come in front of people. Those practices are not there now. Those practices were successfully eliminated due to continuous struggle of social activists. That was the victory of Social Revolutionary leaders. This is the 200th anniversary of the 'Thol Seelai' agitation and the centenary of the Vaikom Agitation. You must study those histories. Once upon a time, the doors of social justice were closed. But they have been opened by the Justice party. There was no education as doors of schools were shut. But they were opened by Kamaraj. Arignar Anna and Dr.Kalaignar opened the gates of the colleges. The present Government is making higher education possible for all people. It is taking efforts to provide all facilities to students. I conceive schemes not as a Chief Minister but as a father. An educational revolution is going on in Tamil Nadu, whether it is school education or college education or university education. They should make you educationally qualified. Above all, you should learn some individual skills. That is very much important. Now most of the students get good marks. But it is the special skills that fetch them good employment.

You should think independently. Not only that, you should have the capacity to deliver what you have thought in writing. These are all the special skills and are also known as sharpening of skills and intelligence. As I am eager to uplift the standard of all students, I launched the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme on my birthday on March 1, last year. It is a scheme that made each young person say, Naan Mudhalvan. I appeal to youth to utilize the scheme properly and come up in life.

You have been given a guidance book on higher education and employment opportunities. This guidance book gives you information about the employment opportunities available to you at the State-level, Union level and at the international level.

Thanthai Periyar used to say. You youths of Tamil Nadu should go anywhere to come up in life. We have given you such guidance. Two publications, 'The Pride of Tamils' and the 'Employment Guidance Book' have been given to more than one lakh students personally and to several hundred thousand youths through internet.

I thank the Tamil Virtual Academy for preparing this manual and distributing it. The Employment Guidance Book is for you to improve your position and the Tamil Pride book is to upgrade our race and language.

The youth of Tamil Nadu should have the self-knowledge about themselves and a general vision about the country.

When I was young like you, about 18 years of age, I attended the D.M.K. Students wing state conference at Coimbatore as an observer. At that time I was not even a listed speaker at the conference. I requested the organizer of the conference, Thiru. L. Ganesan, to give me a few minutes to address the meet. He also permitted me to address the conference. At the meeting, I said that we are fighting for our language and race. I am ready to sacrifice my life in the agitation for the sake of the language and the race. My father would get the name as the one whose son sacrificed his life in the battle for the race and the language. This happened in 1971. That was my first conference speech.

Dr.Kalaignar, who was then the Chief Minister, also participated in the conference. At the meet, he gave advice not only to me, but to all the youth of Tamil Nadu. He told them that first they must study well. That was the first duty that they should do to their parents. I would like to give the same advice to you. Study, study and study well. This is my first advice to you.

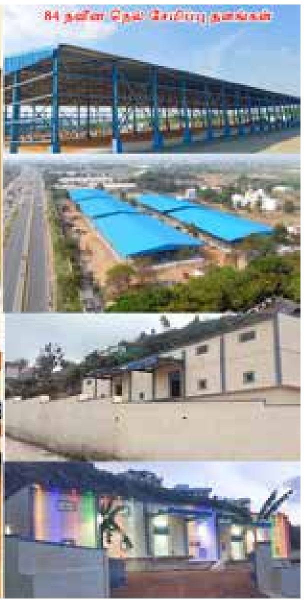
Education is the wealth that cannot be separated from you. If you accumulate the wealth of education other kinds of wealth will automatically reach you.

So during your school and college days, your attention should not be diverted. You should not become addicted to bad habits under any circumstances. This is bad not only you but for the country.

Use the internet and social media selectively. Girls, especially, should get themselves educated at any cost. You should get a degree and take up a suitable employment and reach a higher position. You must be self sufficient and should take care of your economic requirements yourselves. Whether you are a boy or girl student you should have courage, self confidence and a fearless nature. You should follow the social justice, equal justice and equality. I have an ambitious dream. Everything is for everyone. That is my dream. Dream does not mean you close your eyes and float in an illusory world. You should fix a goal in your mind and work for achieving the goal. That was what I am doing throughout the day for the Tamil society. Events like the Great Tamil Dream function as the beacon and lighthouse help me realize that dream.

I congratulate you for successfully conducting this function. The feelings that these functions create are the real and true feelings. Though these, the nation will achieve a Tamil renaissance.

So I once again thank all of you and take leave of you.



Modern covered sheds to store paddy in 9 Districts at a cost of Rs.93.3 crore

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** inaugurated modern paddy storage sheds - 25.04.2023

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, which functions under the Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, inaugurated modern paddy storage sheds with a capacity of 1,16,800 metric tonnes in nine Districts, at a total cost of Rs. 93.3 crore, and in Dindigul District, Kodaikkanal Taluk, a godown with a capacity of 750 metric tonnes, at a cost of Rs. 2 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for 63 direct paddy harvesting procurement centres that are about to be opened in 10 Districts, at a cost of Rs. 39.37 crore.

The Government has been taking various measures to ensure food security for everyone, increase godown capacity to store the food grains of the public distribution system through the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation,

which plays a significant role in the factors of food safety, savings and sales, increase the capacity of the godowns, store food grains through modern methods, procure paddy directly from farmers and build new direct paddy procurement centres with modern facilities.

To keep Tamil Nadu's public distribution system effectively operating, to harvest procure the paddy produced by the farmers, in the Government's direct paddy harvesting centres, and to safeguard them from natural disasters and rainfall, an order was passed to build covered paddy harvesting storage centres in 18 places in ten Districts of Tamil Nadu, with the capacity of 2,86,350 metric tonnes at a cost of Rs.238.7 crore.

In the first phase, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukkottai, Madurai, Sivagangai, Thoothukudi and Tiruvallur are the Districts in which 106 covered paddy harvesting centres with modern facilities were constructed with the capacity of 1,42,450 metric tonnes, at a cost of Rs.105.08 crore and were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister for public use, on 11.02.2023.

In continuation, the second phase currently consists of Ariyalur, Mayiladuthurai, Pudukkottai, Thiruvallur, Sivagangai, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur and Madurai, wherein at a cost of Rs.93.03 crore and with the capacity of 1,16,800 metric tonnes, 84 covered paddy storage godowns have been built, and in Dindigul District, Kodaikkanal Taluk, Pudhukadu Village, with the capacity of 750 metric tonnes capacity, taluk Godown has been built at a cost of Rs. 2 crore. Both of them were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister for public use, on 25.04.2023.

Procurement centres near villages

In order to harvest procure the produce of farmers swiftly with the help of Government harvesting procurement centres, the villages that are mainly based on agriculture have been promised direct paddy harvesting procurement centres village-wise, in light of for the welfare of the farmers.

In keeping with this assurance, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for direct paddy harvesting centres with the capacity to store 250 metric tonnes paddy, Thanjavur District will have 20 centres, Thiruvarur District 10 centres, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai Districts will have 7 centres each, Dindigul District 9 centres, Pudukkottai and Tirunelveli Districts to have 3 centres each, Cuddalore District 2 centres, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu Districts one centre each. Totally, there will be 63 direct paddy harvesting centres in 10 Districts, at a cost of Rs.39.37 crore.

Through these measures, the produce obtained from farmers will be protected from rainfall and farmers will be able to sell their produce at the Government-fixed rate, near their village. The farmers will also save on transportation charges.

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Rs.3.25 crore handed over for year-long Vallalar Mupperum Vizha celebration

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** handed over a cheque to Vallalar Mupperum Vizha's special committee chairman - 25.04.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, on behalf of the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments Department, handed over a cheque for Rs. 3.25 crore to Vallalar Mupperum Vizha's special committee chairman Dr. P. K. Krishnaraj Vanavarayar, as the Government's subsidy for conducting the Vallalar Mupperum Vizha and year-long annadanam at the Secretariat on 25.04.2023.

As promised in the Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments Department's Grant Request, Thiruvarutprakasa Vallalar's Mupperum Vizha was set to happen from October 2022 to October 2023, for 52 weeks in selected cities, under the supervision of Dr. P. K. Krishnaraj Vanavarayar and his special committee of 14 members.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister during the inauguration of Vallalar Mupperum Vizha on 05.10.2022, released the 'Vallalar 200' logo, envelope, and special edition book, initiated the 52-week-long events first-week event and started off the year-long annadanam event.

In his speech, he said that, "Vallalar's Mupperum Vizha is set to happen for 52 weeks in various places. At this moment, I would like to announce the happy news that the Government has allotted Rs. 3.25 crore for the year-long annadanam, honorarium for speakers and other expenses of the event".

As per the announcement, to cover the costs of Vallalar Mupperum Vizha and continuous Annadanam, a Government subsidy of Rs. 3.25 crore was handed over as a cheque, by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, to the Vallalar Mupperum Vizha special committee chairman Dr. P. K. Krishnaraj Vanavarayar. All over Tamil Nadu, Vallalar's Mupperum Vizha is being celebrated by feeding 150 people daily, as part of the Annadanam.

MoU for Rs.2,303 crore investment at Ulundurpet, work for 20,000 people

In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, High Glory Footwear India Private Limited, a subsidiary of the world's leading footwear manufacturer, Taiwan's Pou Chen Group, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to set up a manufacturing plant at the Ulundurpet SIPCOT Industrial Park, Kallakurichi District, in the next 12 years, for footwear production with an investment of Rs.2,302 crore and employment to 20,000 persons, at the Secretariat on 17.04.2023.

In order to make Tamil Nadu, which is the second largest economy in India, achieve the aim of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, of a One Trillion Dollar Economy by the year 2030, the Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department has been working on attracting Capital Intensive High-tech Industries and Employment intensive investments.

In the presence of
the Hon'ble Chief Minister
of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**
a MoU was signed- 17.04.2023

As a part of this, steps are being taken for conducting the Global Investors' Meet on January 10 and 11 in the year 2024 to attract huge investments.

Pou Chen Corporation

Taiwan's Pou Chen Corporation is the world's leading footwear manufacturer. This company is the contract manufacturer for popular footwear companies around the globe.

Memorandum of Understanding

The Pou Chen Group's M/s. High Glory Footwear India Private Limited is to set up a manufacturing plant at Ulundurpet SIPCOT Industrial Park, Kallakurichi

District for footwear production in the next twelve years with an investment of Rs.2,302 crore and employment to 20,000 persons. In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Memorandum of Understanding for this was signed in between by the Government of Tamil Nadu and High Glory Footwear India Private Limited company.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu released the Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022 in August 2022. The present follows that step. Further, this MoU has been signed according to the aim of the Government to ensure industrial growth in all Districts across the state by attracting investments towards underdeveloped Districts as well. Through this scheme, there will be increased employment opportunities for youth, especially women, in the newly formed Kallakurichi District and its neighbouring areas. Also, this will help Tamil Nadu, which is already a leading state in the country in the production and export of footwear and leather products, rise higher.

June 26: Birth anniversary of Silambu Selvar Ma.Po.Si.

'The hero of Kallakudi'

It was with the aim of building a memorial to the hero Kattabomman whom he loved most, that I renovated the Panchalankurichi fort.

When Silambu Selvar spoke at the inauguration, he mentioned the arrangements I had made to build Valluvar Kottam and Poompuhar, and referring with emotion to the fact that "Karunanidhi has built such a beautiful fort here at Panchalankurichi", added with sadness that Anna is not here to witness all this and laud Karunanidhi. Then he added with feeling, "Even though Anna is not there to bless you on this occasion, I am there to take his place and greet you". The words that he spoke that day are ringing in my ears even today.

He always had a special affection for me. He conferred the title 'Kallakudi Kondaan' on me in a ceremony held at Tiruchi. He never tired of praising others. It was his nature to praise and encourage all those working and fighting for Tamil, whoever they were.

-From the speech of the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar at the valedictory function of the centenary celebration of Silambu Selvar Ma.Po.Si

Foundation stone laid for Rs.34.49 crore quarters for Government Press employees

The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development **Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin** laid the foundation stone - 11.05.2023

The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin, in the presence of Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan and the Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Thiru. S.S.Sivasankar gave Journalists' Welfare Board membership cards to 7 journalists, orders for appointment on compassionate grounds to the heirs of 8 journalists who passed away when in service, Tamilarasu issue given to the one lakh and oneth subscriber and laid the foundation stone for the construction of 96 residential quarters for the Government Press employees at Tondiarpet, Chennai, at a cost of Rs.34.49 crore.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development in the program

This program by the Department of Tamil Development, Information and Public Relations, which includes the distribution of Journalists' Welfare Board membership cards, foundation stone laying for the construction of 96 quarters with modern amenities at a cost of Rs.34.49 crore for Government Press employees, issuance of orders for appointments on compassionate grounds and giving the one lakh and oneth subscription for Tamilarasu magazine, is of much significance.

As promised by the D.M.K. in its election manifesto, the work to set up the Journalists' Welfare Board has been started by the Government today. We have been implementing each day each promise given in the election manifesto by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. As part of that, today, we have fulfilled one of the promises given in the election manifesto by implementing it.

Our Dravidian Model Government has always been functioning in line with journalists' welfare. After taking charge, as said in the election manifesto, our Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu issued an order that all defamation cases filed by the previous Government will be withdrawn. Similarly, during the COVID pandemic, our Government announced the Journalists as frontline workers and also gave them Rs.5,000 as financial assistance. Our Government is ready to continue to render its service to Journalists. You all are aware of this.

Similarly, to this program today, in general journalists have all come, including senior journalists. To other programmes and other Department programs, you all used to come to gather news. In each of the journals, the news used to come in different sizes, and various perspectives and sometimes it would not come as well. But today, this is your programme. You cannot ignore reporting this news. Also, there is another important event taking place. A new Minister has taken charge. You've left that programme and come here to collect news. Therefore, this is such an important event. Yesterday, our Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Saminathan wanted to get this programme conducted immediately, and he organized it today. I hope you all understood through this how much importance this Government gives to journalists.

I request you all to extend your support to the Government, point out mistakes if any, appreciate us for our good works and continue your service. I would like to conclude by extending my greetings and good wishes to all of you.

June 05: Birth anniversary of
Kanniya Thendral Quaid-e-Millath

'A Patriot'

Quaid-e-Millath Mohammed Ismail Saheb was an epitome of tolerance. He was the very soul of simplicity. He was the repository of pleasant affability.

Quaid-e-Millath was a great patriot, in this regard, the speeches he made in Parliament are still being spoken of today.

Quaid-e-Millath said, "I am ready to make my son join the Indian Army and send my son to war" during the invasion by Pakistan, during the agitation for Pakistan, proving his patriotism.

Such a patriot, a lover of the country and lover of the Tamil language clearly stated that Tamil should be made the common language and national language of India.

When the dispute about a common language for India arose in the Constituent Assembly, Quaid-e-Millath said the only language that is rich in literature, grammar, and history was Tamil, and that it should be made the common language of India.

- From the speech of the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar on the occasion of the 95th Birth Anniversary of Quaid-e- Millath, after visiting his memorial and paying floral tribute.

'Books, weapons of the intellectual revolution'

Good books are our good friends!

When we start reading a book, it starts conversing with us. It shows us a world that we were not aware of. It gives us knowledge. It refines us.

That is why D.M.K. activists have initiated the exchange of books as a movement.

To popularise the reading habit, our Dravidian Model Government has been conducting book fairs in the Districts and is rejuvenating the libraries.

Books are the weapons of the intellectual revolution!

Social media post and greetings of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin,** on the occasion of World Book Day - 23.04.2023.

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A poet's voice, bold and clear

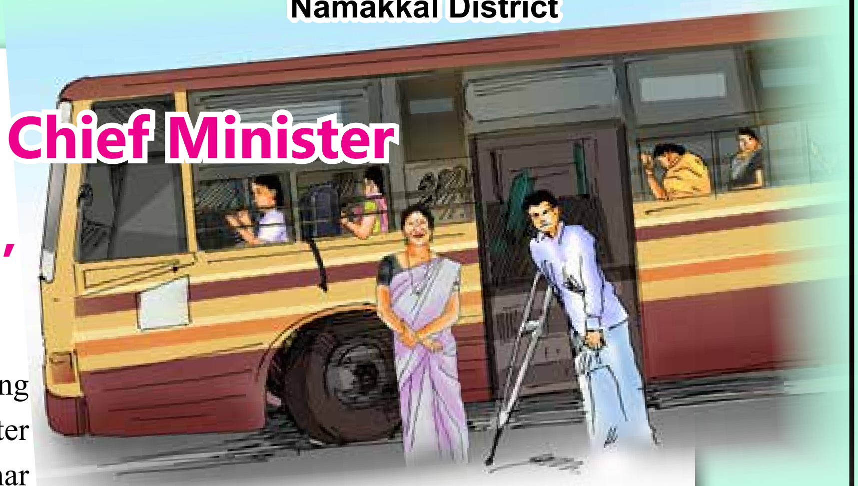
A wine goblet is where I stay
With lovely lass in my sway
In lyrical song my life's beat
I behold everywhere Nature sweet!

Prince I am of the Muse of Poetry
Darling of loving women free
A man apart from the milling crowd
Creator I am, bold and proud!

Mankind fears my every word
Its passing is with me observed
But death for me, never will be
I am ever Eternal, like the sea!

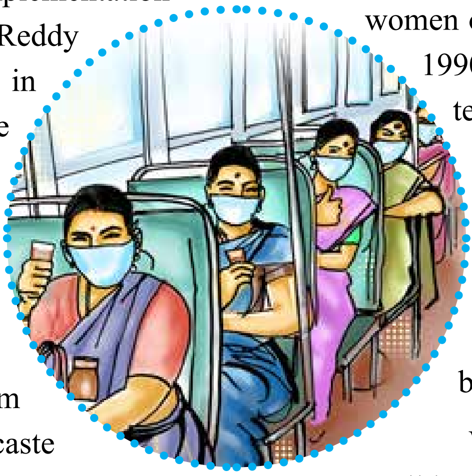
***Kaviyarasu Kannadasan's** poem*
- **Translated by Vamanan**

‘Thanks to Hon’ble Chief Minister for Free Bus Travel Scheme for women’



In 1973, for the first time in India, aiming to empower women, the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Muthamizharignar Kalaignar ordered the appointment of women in the Police Department.

To enable women to stand on their own feet with confidence and self-respect, in the year 1989, he launched the Self Help Groups in Dharmapuri.



The inauguration and implementation of the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme in 1989, a scheme to provide financial assistance for the marriage of poor women in the state in 1990, Dr. Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme, Anjugam Ammaiyar Ninaivu Intercaste Marriage Scheme, Annai Teresa Ninaivu Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme and E.V.R. Maniammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme (for the daughters of poor widows) were by him.

Schemes such as reservation of 30 per cent Government posts for women and the Right to Property Act which grants equal rights for women over their ancestral property in 1990, the appointment of female teachers only up to class II in schools in 1997, 33 per cent reservation for women in local bodies for the first time in India and Unmarried Women Pension Scheme have also been implemented.

Women earning daily by doing small businesses tend to lose their hard-

earned money to individuals charging (high) interest. To prevent this, in 1998, the Women Small Business Loans scheme and Mother Teresa Women's Complex near Valluvar Kottam at a cost of Rs.10 lakh for marketing the products of the Women Self Help Groups at the state level were all implemented by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar and he stood as a role model for the whole of India for the initiatives taken towards ensuring the progress of women.

The free bus pass scheme for school students was introduced because distance should not be a limitation for the students to study in the schools of their choice. During 2006-2011, during his tenure as the Minister for Panchayat Raj Department, Thiru. M.K. Stalin gave revolving funds and loans to several thousands of Self Help Group members, and now after taking charge as the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, he has issued five Government orders fulfilling electoral promises and bringing a new brightness in the lives of the people of Tamil Nadu.

As one of these, he had ordered that in all the normal fare buses operated under the Government Transport Corporations throughout Tamil Nadu, women can travel for free and without bus passes from 08.05.2021 onwards..

According to this, in various routes such as in Namakkal District, Namakkal - Rasipuram, Namakkal - Mohanur, Namakkal -Kalappa Naicken Palayam, Namakkal - Valayapatti, Namakkal - Erumapatti, Tiruchengode - Komarapalayam, Komarapalayam - Erode, Pallipalayam - Erode, 110 buses are being operated daily. In all these buses, labels mentioning that women travel for free have been stuck. As the women working in poultry farms, textile mills, hospitals, business establishments and Uzhavar Sandhai earned a meagre income and had been spending 25 to 40 per cent of their earnings on transportation, this free bus travel scheme implemented by the Government has made them immensely happy.

A beneficiary of this scheme, Tmt. Maruthayi, a construction worker residing in Senthamangalam gave her reactions to the scheme:

My name is Maruthayi. I reside with my family at Senthamangalam. I have been earning a living by doing construction works and selling vegetables available in Namakkal Town. I earn about Rs. 300 or Rs. 400 a day. Getting work for 5 days a week is itself huge. The new Chief Minister Thiru.Stalin Sir has said that women can travel in buses without buying tickets and with no expenditure. Earlier, Rs.50 per day was spent on buses. Today, Rs.50 has become a saving for me. I express my gratitude to the Chief Minister for this favour done for women living on daily earnings and by doing construction work.

Maruthayi

A beneficiary of this scheme, R. Priya, a hospital worker residing in Elur gave her response as follows:

R.Priya

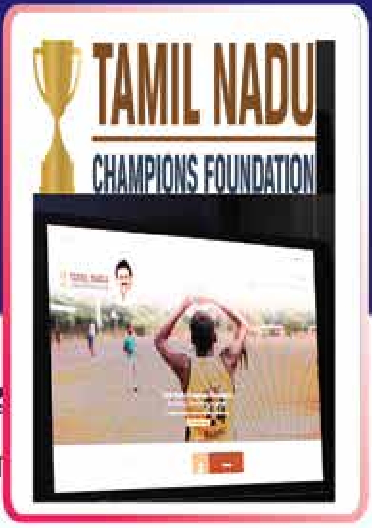
My name is R. Priya and I reside in Elur. I work at a private hospital in Namakkal City. Thiru. Stalin Sir had announced as one of his electoral promises that necessary action will be taken for free travel in buses for women. When we got to know that he is going to become the Chief Minister, my female colleagues and I thought that we would be getting free bus travel concessions within two or three months. But Stalin Sir, immediately after taking charge as the Chief Minister, signed first for the implementation of the free bus travel for women scheme and brought it into effect from 08.05.2021. The conductor didn't take any fare from us. I felt very happy. Women like me who work for monthly wages had to compromise on expenditure for very important personal needs. Now, with the amount that is being saved, we can purchase our very important needs by ourselves without taking the help of our father and brothers. I have planned to save the money which I have now due to the concession given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and utilise it properly. I express my gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

A beneficiary of this scheme S. Soundarya, a resident of Pottanam had this to say:

S.Soundarya

My name is Soundarya. I am a B.E. Civil Engineering graduate and work in a private firm as an Engineer. It is difficult for women who work as Civil Engineers to travel to various places and carry out their work. Hence, I've been doing work at the office. Due to this, the salary is lesser. We have the appellation of 'Engineer', the remuneration we get by working in a private firm, expenses are a cause of anxiety. Thiru. M.K. Stalin, immediately after taking charge as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu as promised by him, signed first for the implementation of the free travel for women in the buses operated by the Government Transport Corporations. As a result of this, my transportation charges are wholly saved. I hadn't even dreamed of this. While I had thought of going to work in a city such as Chennai as my salary was insufficient, now because of the implementation of this scheme, I have decided to work in Namakkal and be with my parents. I express gratitude on behalf of my family to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu who had implemented this scheme by understanding the plight of women.

- Compiled by
Public Relations Officer,
Namakkal District.



Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation

In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin and the former captain of the Indian cricket team Mahendra Singh Dhoni launched the logo and portal of the Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation at Chennai on 08.05.2023.

Tamilarasu

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The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development **Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin**, handed over a copy of Tamilarasu magazine to the 1,00,001st subscriber, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, at a function held at the Anna Centenary Library Hall, Kotturpuram, Chennai, on 11.05.2023.

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